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THE NEWSPAPER FOR CANTERBURY, WHITSTABLE, HERNE BAY AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES



Issue No 124
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February 10, 2010

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remains the ideal

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the local action

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One in ten council homes is failing to meet Government standards across the Canterbury district where the...

WINTER DEATH RATE IS WORST IN THE COUNTY

AS the weather takes another wintry turn for the worse, new figures obtained by Yourcanterbury reveal more than 550 council homes in the district do not meet housing standards.

Currently, 561 properties do not meet the Decent Homes Standard out of a total council housing stock of 5,240. The news comes as the number of excess winter deaths in the district has soared. This measures the additional number of people who die, of any cause, during the winter months.

EXCLUSIVE

BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

The latest figures from the Eastern and Coastal PCT for 2007\08 showed Canterbury as having the highest tally in Kent.

That winter, 130 more people died during the months of December through to February, compared with 20 in Dover and Swale, 30 in Ashford and Shepway and 70 in Thanet.

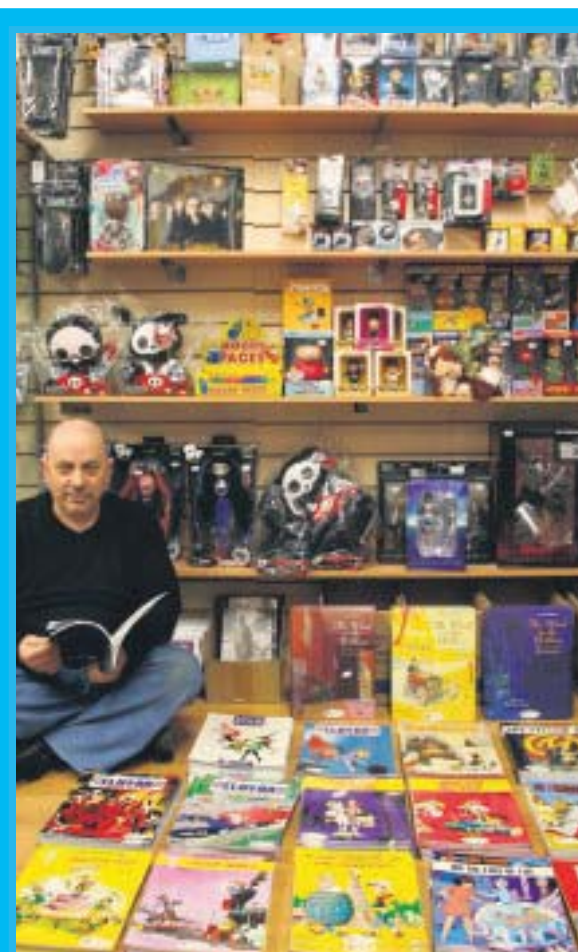
The Government standard, introduced a decade ago, sets the criteria homes must meet to qualify for being

described as weather-tight, warm and modern.

Of the 10.7 per cent of homes which fail to meet the guidelines, 415 are not warm enough.

According to the council, 29 of these are part of an improvement project which will increase the warmth of the homes, and a further 69 are classed as being hard to heat, but work on deciding how to tackle these is about to start. Of the remaining homes some use solid fuel heating which the inhabitants have chosen to keep, and the rest have electric heating and need more insulation. The council has

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



SCHOOLS IN NEED OF COMIC RELIEF

Schools looking for a colourful addition to their libraries can get their hands on free graphic novels at a Canterbury comic shop. While stocks last that is.

FULL STORY ON PAGE 4

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2 Firefighters tackle a huge blaze at a furniture store in Lyminge. **Search 'Lyminge'**



3 Kent Police Chief Constable Michael Fuller talks about his decision to leave the Force. **Search 'Fuller'**

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Hotel granted 'compromise' garden licence

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

PLANS to license a hotel garden have been agreed, despite attracting more than 30 objections, including one from the police.

The Castle House Hotel, on 28 Castle Street, now has a licensed garden, but with several conditions to allay the fears of neighbours and the authorities.

Instead of being able to play music and hold entertainment until midnight on every day of the week, and 2am on public holidays, hoteliers will only be able to serve guests at pre-booked functions with drinks from waiters or waitresses.

People will only be able to stay in the garden until 9pm from April until October, on eight days a month, only four of which can be at weekends, and up to 45 individuals will be allowed outside on the premises.

The matter was decided at a council licensing meeting on Thursday, February 4 in which proceedings were hampered by confusion, caused by a delay in sending papers to neighbours and the hotel's solicitor.

At the meeting, Jerome Dillon, the solicitor representing owner Lynda Desmarais, said: "We are not turning this into a pub."

"What we want is just waitresses wandering about and topping up drinks."

"We do not want shouting and yelling, this is a very genteel affair."

At the meeting Elizabeth Cowie, who lives next to the hotel, said: "Notwithstanding the very sensible plans envisaged, drinking can nonetheless, under the licence, go on throughout the day."

"It is effectively having, for several hours on every clement day, a party. In a residential area you do not



CONDITIONS: A drinks licence has been issued for the Castle Hotel's garden

expect to have a party every afternoon of every weekend."

Locals and police had previously been concerned that the hotel would effectively be turned into a pub or nightclub if fully licensed.

Susan Earlam, who has lived next to the hotel building for more than 30 years, said: "Our biggest worry was that whatever was settled, if the building was sold on with planning permission we might find ourselves with a nightclub and nothing we could do about it."

"I suppose this is good as a compromise, although I would rather have seen nothing in the garden."

"I have lived there for 30 years and I like it, but the thought of noisiness right next to my house – it is a conservation area and a residential area and it is not the right place."

"We have received assurances that this is an up-market hotel, and I am hoping it is, but reassurance does not always tell you what is coming in the future."

146 'not in a reasonable state of repair'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE
said quotations to provide this are being looked into.

The other 146 homes are classified as not being in a reasonable state of repair.

Of these 60 have boilers that are more than 15 years old and 86 properties have electrical services more than 30 years old which do not meet the latest requirements.

A council spokesman has said the 146 houses are part of improvement programmes, and all homes will meet the decent homes standard by the government deadline of the end of 2010.

The spokesman said that although some homes did not meet the guidelines, the Decent Homes Standard was very high.

Specials issue fines for driving offences

SPECIAL constables have been giving motorists expensive reminders to wear seatbelts and stop speeding during an operation at the weekend.

Thirteen motorists were given £30 fines for not belting up, and four were given £60 fines and points on their licences for speeding.

The Special Constables teamed up with police officers from the department responsible for roads and the motorcycle unit to carry out checks as part of a national specials weekend.

Drivers were also fined for using illegal number plates, having excessively tinted windows and misusing fog lights.

Those interested in joining the Specials are invited to a recruitment evening at Nackington police station at 7pm on Wednesday, February 24. Call 0500 787700.

Neighbourhood PC is keen to meet you

SEASALTER has a new neighbourhood police officer – family man PC Justin Walton.

The constable has been based in Thanet, but is looking forward to getting to know the area with community support officer Aaron Newell, who has been working in the district.

PC Walton said: "I am keen to meet the local community and find out more about people want from the neighbourhood team."

To contact PC Walton or other members of the Whitstable neighbourhood team call 01227 868 028 or email canterbury.coastal@kent.pnn.police.uk

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Villagers join charity to oppose parking plan

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

PARISH councillors and a countryside charity are to protest against a possible park and ride scheme at Harbledown tomorrow.

Protect Kent, the local branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England, has become involved in the fight to stop the development.

The charity will join forces with Harbledown and Rough Common councillors at the Faulkner's Lane site entrance at 2.30pm on Thursday, February 11. Members of the public are also welcome to join the protest.

Harbledown has been suggested as a possible park and ride site in the council's Local Development Framework, which sets out the plan for housing and infrastructure in the district until 2026.

Janet Larkinson, chairman of the local parish council, said: "We have a lot of support from local people. They are very, very unhappy about this idea."

"It is a preposterous idea to put a park and ride scheme in a village on agricultural land approached by a small, windy road that goes past an ancient monument. How many more reasons do you want?"

"Do we need any more park and rides in Canterbury? We think not."

"We are taking it to this stage because we are the representatives of the village and we think it is our job to keep the village as it is, as much as we can."



PROTEST: The circle marks the site of the proposed park and ride scheme in Harbledown, on the outskirts of the city

"Obviously we can't keep it in aspic forever, but this is such a large development right next to a medieval village and a conservation area."

The four options outlined in the council's Local Development Framework are to build a new park and ride site at Harbledown, build a new site near Cockerling Farm, expand the Wincheap park and ride with a multi-storey car park or add no new capacity.

Protect Kent's senior planner Brian Lloyd said: "We remain to be convinced that there is a need for additional Park and Ride capacity to

serve Canterbury, and to be shown that it is the best way to address congestion issues."

"Even if a case for it can be made, it seems perverse to tarmac over acres of attractive countryside, either at Harbledown or Cockerling Farm, when additional provision can be made on council-owned brownfield land at Wincheap."

"The council's own consultants have concluded that Wincheap is a very good location, given the proposed new slip roads on to the A2."

The Local Development Framework is out to public consultation until March 12.



Armed robbery at petrol station

POLICE are appealing for witnesses after a petrol station near Faversham was the target of an armed robbery this week.

A man entered the BP station on the coastbound carriageway of the Thanet Way at 1.25am on Monday and threatened the cashier with a heavy hand-held object before stealing money from the till and fleeing the scene.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Sittingbourne police on 01795 491161, quoting CY/2048/10 or email amet.midkent@kent.pnn.police.uk

Celebrity signs up to save museums

STEPHEN Fry has joined more than 2,300 people who have signed a petition to save the district's museums.

The story made it into the national press this week, prompting signatories from all over the world, including an archaeologist from Germany and people from South Africa and Texas.

Chance to comment on new homes

PUBLIC exhibitions are being held by the council as part of a consultation on the future of infrastructure and housing in the district.

This includes the possibility of building homes on greenfield land to the south of Canterbury, an eco-village in Hersden, and a park and ride scheme in Harbledown.

Exhibitions are taking place in Canterbury, allowing residents to examine the Local Development Framework in more detail, ask questions and make comments.

The framework will set out the future of the district until 2026, and the council has said an important part of the consultation is to allow everyone to get involved and have their say.

In Canterbury the event will be held from 10am to 4pm from February 8 to 14 in Unit 16 of the Marlowe Arcade, next to HMV.

In Herne Bay and Whitstable the exhibitions will be held in the towns' libraries from 10am to 4pm, from February 15 to 20.

For more information go to www.canterbury.gov.uk/ldf or pick up a copy from your nearest council office.

Comments can be emailed to planning.policy@canterbury.gov.uk

Council tax rise 'to be below inflation' ahead of election

COUNCIL tax is likely to raise by 2.43 per cent this year – lower than the rate of inflation.

The modest rise is calculated as what is required to achieve the level of spending set out in the council's newest budget, as agreed by the executive on January 21.

It is also based on increased grants which have to go to local authorities from the council tax.

Kent County Council has asked for 2.57 per cent more than last year, Kent Police for 2.99 per cent more and Kent Fire and Rescue for 2.86 per cent more.

This means basic council tax for an average band D property will be £1,437.92.

The highest for the band in the area is in the village of Chartham, where locals will have to pay nearly £1,489 in council tax. This is because the parish council tax is high.

The cheapest villages to live in, in terms of council tax, are

Bekesbourne and Patricxbourne, where inhabitants only pay £1,453.

The lowest council tax in the area is basic band A council tax, which comes to £958, and the highest is band H in Chartham at £2,977.

The council's leadership has deliberately kept the tax low, partly because they do not want to increase the tax and partly due to fears that the government will cap council tax in the run-up to an election.

In part this has led to cuts in its revenue budget, some of which have proven unpopular.

The Conservatives promised in a recent report to keep tax rises low if they win the next general election.

In the financial year beginning in 2011 the increase will be just over two per cent, and it will rise by three per cent in each of the two years thereafter, if the Conservatives were to remain in power.

The report will come before full council on February 18.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Brodsky Quartet tribute at Gulbenkian concert

A WORLD famous string quartet is playing in Canterbury today (Wednesday), at the University of Kent.

The Brodsky Quartet will be celebrating the 200th anniversary of Robert Schumann's birth by playing some of his finest chamber music, as well as Dvorak's American Quartet.

The concert is from 7.45pm, at the Gulbenkian Theatre. Tickets are £17 from the box office on 01227 769075 or online at www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk.

Miss Petra in cabaret for Pink Kandi launch night

A NEW gay night in Canterbury will launch this evening (Wednesday) with a unique cabaret drag act.

Pink Kandi will run every Wednesday from tonight at Bar Kandi in Orange Street.

Organisers hope to fill the gap left by the closure of gay bar CO2 and the cessation of gay nights at The Bizz and The Works nightclubs.

The launch night promises DJ Tom Barber, drag act Miss Petra and drinks promotions.

Cathedral's fundraiser

A BRING and buy sale is being organised by the Friends of Canterbury Cathedral this Saturday.

Between 10.30am and 1.30pm, anyone can go to the Chapter House to browse the bargains and enjoy refreshments.

Those with items to donate items should take them to the venue – next to the Cloisters in the Cathedral Precincts – between 2.30pm and 5.30pm on Friday, or on the following day from 9.30am.

For more details on how to donate call 01227 865292.

Cadets want quiz teams

A QUIZ night is being held by the Herne Bay Sea Cadets next weekend.

For £5, teams of eight can be in with a chance of winning a prize and enter the raffle.

The event begins at 7.30pm at St Andrew's Church hall, Hampton Pier Avenue, on Saturday, February 20.

Guests should take their own refreshments. To book or for further details, call 07765 787961.

Bus shelter wait over for elderly villagers

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

A NEW bus shelter in Herne has delighted elderly villagers, who have been calling for somewhere to rest their legs.

Oliver Gosnell is the septuagenarian who has been at the forefront of the campaign.

He said: "Elderly people with thrombosis and arthritis who struggle to the bus stop with an umbrella, not really sure if a bus is coming or not, at least have a shelter to sit down in now."

"For people with a dodgy hip or knee, it really means a lot. The council has done the people in Herne a real favour."

"There are many retired people here and it has made a lot of them very happy."

The new shelter was installed on the Canterbury Road on January 25, after more than a year of campaigning.

There was already a bus stop at Strode Park for those wanting to go to Herne Bay, but people wanting to go to Canterbury were forced to stand out in all weathers.

Some even resorted to leaning against a lamppost to keep the weight off their legs.

At the end of July, last year, county councillor Alan Marsh promised those living in Herne a new bus shelter within eight months – it has arrived after six.

Cllr Marsh said: "Nobody is happier about this than me. I promised the new bus stop before the end of the financial year and I got it here early."



UNDER COVER: Oliver Gosnell, left, and Cllr Alan Marsh at the new bus shelter in Herne

Mr Gosnell said: "The bus stop has been put up very quickly. The service was fabulous. I know everyone tends to moan about the council, but as far as I'm concerned we've had a terrific service. With all the cuts and the roads ruined with potholes and everything else, I

thought they would do everything else before the shelter."

"But, lo and behold, on the Monday morning they were putting it up and it was all done by dinner time. They've done a smashing job. The people of Herne will be very grateful."



NEW LEAF: Manny Armaroi of Whatever Comics with free books

Are you sitting comfortably?

COMIC shop owners in Canterbury have been landed with 500 graphic novels they need to give away to local schools.

One of the directors of Cinebook, the company which makes the storybooks, saved the editions from being pulped by shipping them over from France.

The charitable boss, who lives in Chartham, gave Whatever Comics in St Peter's Street the merchandise on the condition they gave them away to schools.

Although Manny and Debbie Armaroi have paid for a mail-out to schools and given away more than 100, they still have between 300 and 400 books left. The beautiful editions include The Wind in the Willows, Yakari, Billy the Kid, Jesse James, and The Yellow M.

The books are suitable for primary pupils or younger secondary school youngsters and the shop owners want to see them go into school libraries.

Teachers who are interested should phone 01227 453226 or go to the shop with a letter of proof that they are acting for a school.

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EURONICS



BRIGHT IDEA: Secondary pupils have been helping renovate the Prince of Wales Youth Centre in Northgate

Project provides positive outlet for teenagers

TEENAGERS have been taking part in an innovative project to keep them in school by giving them more free time.

Pupils at risk of exclusion at St Anselm's Catholic School and Chaucer Technology School in Canterbury have been taken out of school for one day a week to help refurbish a youth centre.

The 14 to 16-year-olds have been working six hours a day for four weeks to turn the Prince of Wales Youth Centre in Northgate, into a place for other youngsters to enjoy.

The pupils have also been able to enjoy activities such as DJing workshops.

Daniel, 15, said: "I think the project has been good. We did kickboxing the first time we came here and that was a good experience. The people who run it have been fantastic. It has helped in school, I'm better in English and science."

"I pay more attention now, because I realised I used to be annoying to the teachers."

The children have painted the walls with their own choice of vibrant colours, have designed a 'chill-out' area with seating and

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

games tables, have created a juice and healthy snack bar and have been making murals to decorate the walls.

Ola Agbebi, the project's manager, said: "These young people are at risk of exclusion at school, so we engage them in activities and use their energy positively."

"We want them to do something in their community. This project is making them more positive – calmer is relative – but they are using their energy more positively."

Staff from Nacro, the crime reduction charity which runs the project, hope the teenagers will take 'ownership' of the building and learn from having responsibility for it.

The project also give pupils the chance to get to know adults who are not parents or teachers, so they can learn social skills outside traditional hierarchies.

Taylor, 15, said: "This is fun. I don't get to do this in school."

Once the pupils have finished decorating the centre they will each have their own mentor to make sure they stay engaged with learning.

yourcanterbury NEWS IN BRIEF

Car thieves behind bars

TWO thieves who took a BMW from Herne Bay in November have been jailed and disqualified from driving.

Jack Jones, 34 and of no fixed address, must serve eight months in prison and has been banned from driving for two years.

Daniel Murphy, 27, of Wingham Close, Gillingham, will spend seven months behind bars and was also disqualified from driving for two years.

They were sentenced at Canterbury Crown Court after being charged with aggravated vehicle taking. Jones was also charged with refusing to take a breath test.

They were arrested after police saw the stolen black BMW being driven in Ramsgate on November 8, and later found it in a ditch at Chislet.

Police dogs and a helicopter were used to track down Jones and Murphy, who were near the abandoned car.

Young, gifted and black

A DOCTORAL student at the University of Kent has been named as one of Britain's most outstanding black students.

Yolanda Brown, who is studying for a PhD, is a double MOBO (Music Of Black Origin) award-winning saxophonist.

She was hailed as an exceptional student in a publication called Future Leaders 2010.

Miss Brown has toured with The Temptations and recently played for the Russian president in St Petersburg.

Professor Paul Phillips said: "We are delighted by Yolanda's success. To combine her musical ability with the highest level of academic study is a fantastic achievement."

A slippery start on roads

SNOW flurries on Monday morning caused problems for east Kent motorists, with a spate of crashes on slippery roads.

At 7.30am, a two-car pile-up on the Thanet Way at St Nicholas at Wade caused long tail-backs on the London-bound carriageway.

A Peugeot 206 struck the central barrier before a Renault collided with the first car. Both drivers were treated for minor injuries.

Meanwhile, a car and van collided on Stone Street at Petham during the morning rush-hour, forcing drivers to take long detours.



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Playground showing at film festival

A SHORT movie that attracted uninvited police attention is in the running for a film festival prize.

While Christ Church students were shooting Playground in Faversham last year, a passer-by thought the climactic scenes of a policeman being clubbed to death were real.

The pedestrian was so convinced by the acting of former Marlowe Youth Theatre members that they called the police.

Playground will compete against other local entries for the title of Best Short Film at the Dover Film Festival on February 22 and 23, in Dover Town Hall, with screenings at 3pm and 7.30pm on both days.



HARD STARES: Playground cast in character



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Specialist advisor to help sexually-abused children



SUPPORT: The Young Person's Independent Sexual Violence Advisor will help to give abused children a voice

Grant will provide dedicated support for young rape victims

■ BY MARIJKE COX

A CHARITY supporting Kent's victims of rape and sexual violence has secured funding for Britain's first-ever children's independent advisor.

The new position means young people who have suffered abuse at the hands of rapists and paedophiles can access specialist, confidential support solely for youngsters.

Gravesend-based Family Matters was able to make the provision thanks to a grant of £64,000 from the Equalities and Human Rights Commission. Malcolm Gilbert, operations director at the charity, said the new Young Person's Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (YP-ISVA) was vital.

He said: "Of the 200 rape victims we see, a quarter are aged 12 to 16.

"By offering this help we are filling a gap which has never been done before for children."

Mr Gilbert added that as well as

being awarded the grant, the partnership between Family Matters, the Crown Prosecution Service and Kent Police through the Kent Criminal Justice Board had made real changes to victim support.

The organisations are also working with the UK Border Agency to help deal with young girls who have been trafficked for the sex trade.

Rebecca Masey, who has taken on the YP-ISVA position, will offer tailored support to children and young people who have suffered rape or sexual abuse and act as a gateway to the charity's therapy service.

Risk assessments will take place to ensure further victimisation is stopped. The focus will be on hard-to-reach groups and youngsters less likely to come forward for help. Close family members of victims will also receive support.

Deputy Chief Constable Adrian

Leppard, who chairs the Kent Criminal Justice Board, said he was sure that the specialist service would also help secure convictions.

"Through this role, vulnerable and emotionally-scarred children will get more of the help and support they need and deserve," he said.

One person who knows only too well the need for services like Family Matters is 24-year-old Sarah (not her real name).

Last August she was raped by two men after her drink was spiked. Speaking about her ordeal to KOS Media, she said she would not have been able to cope had it not been for the Adults' Independent Sexual Violence Advisor.

"It's important children are helped too," she said. "I wouldn't have been able to get through this without the counselling.

"I would just say to anybody, don't hide it. Come forward and get help."

For more information, go to www.familymattersuk.org.

Artefacts saved as fire museum made homeless

THE Kent fire service museum urgently needs a new home.

Fire chiefs have reluctantly been forced to move it from their Maidstone headquarters and are now hunting for a new location to house the collection.

Fire service historian Roger Mardon, from Canterbury, said he was sad about the closure but delighted his campaign to keep the collection together had been successful.

He said: "In my view, the museum should preferably be maintained at service headquarters, but if that were not to be it is important to preserve the collection intact.

"There was unanimous support [at the Kent Fire and Rescue Authority's planning and performance committee] for the principle of keeping the collection together.

"A project team, including representatives of the interested parties, is to be established to develop plans for a virtual [online] museum and for rehousing the artefacts.

"Committee chairman Keith Ferrin made it clear it was not the intention to close the existing museum straight away and he undertook that everything possible would be done to rehouse the collection in one place.

"While it is disappointing the museum will have to move, I am encouraged by the support for keeping the collection together. Every effort must be made to find somewhere this can be done."

The museum opens one day a week and includes artefacts including videos of fire, photographs and a hollowed-out tree trunk used as a water main.

A fire service spokesman said: "We have teams of staff who need to be located at our HQ to run the service and we do not have room to house them.

"This means we have to look at all options and freeing up space taken up by the museum has to be considered."



Picture: ROGER MARDON

HISTORY: This Bromley steamer is one of many fascinating artefacts to be seen at the museum

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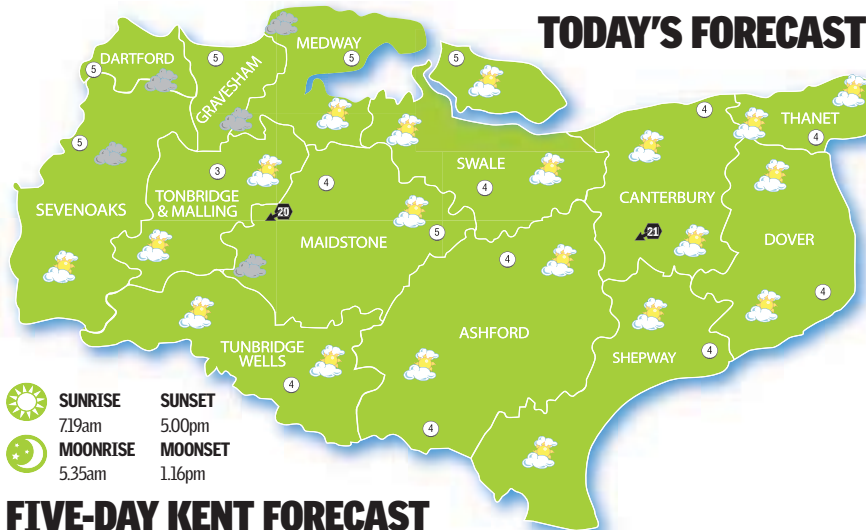
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WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	12:42pm	5.7m
	Sunday	1:15pm	5.8m
Dover	Saturday	10:55am	6.1m
	Sunday	11:27am	6.2m
Dungeness	Saturday	10:48am	6.9m
	Sunday	11:24am	7.2m
Ramsgate	Saturday	11:25am	4.7m
	Sunday	11:57am	4.8m
Sheerness	Saturday	12:32pm	5.5m
	Sunday	1:05pm	5.5m
Whitstable	Saturday	12:44pm	5.0m
	Sunday	1:11pm	5.0m



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	-4°C	Madrid	9°C
Athens	10°C	New York	-2°C
Barcelona	9°C	Paris	4°C
Beijing	0°C	Rome	9°C
Bombay	29°C	Sydney	27°C
Cape Town	27°C	Tenerife	22°C
Cardiff	3°C	Tokyo	8°C
Gibraltar	18°C	Vancouver	7°C
Hong Kong	20°C	Warsaw	-7°C
Las Palmas	22°C	Wellington	16°C

Green pupil, Naomi, had message for Westminster

SCHOOLGIRL Naomi Miall has travelled to Westminster to discuss tackling climate change and encouraging sustainable behaviour.

Naomi, a pupil at Bridge and Patricbourne C of E Primary School, was one of only 22 of the UK's most green-minded children chosen to join an eco-friendly youth think tank. Her personal statement was selected from hundreds of entries by a panel including Gearóid Lane, a director for British Gas New Energy.

Naomi has attended workshops throughout the year with important environmental bodies including the Met Office. Together they developed a six-point action plan which she presented yesterday to an audience of prominent MPs, including Ed Miliband, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change.

Part of her project included a 'sustainable school of the future' which she drew with the help of a professional designer.

She said: "The Generation Green Think Tank has taught me all about simple changes that we can make at school and at home to save energy, such as grass growing on top of our school roof and a solar powered hot water system. I hope schools really do look like this in the future."

"I'm going to talk to my teachers and classmates to see what changes we can make to do our bit for climate change."



GENERATION GREEN: Naomi Miall was part of a youth think tank on climate change

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	5°C	5°C	2°C	3°C	4°C	Gravesend	6°C	5°C	3°C	4°C	4°C
Canterbury	4°C	4°C	2°C	3°C	3°C	Maidstone	5°C	4°C	3°C	3°C	4°C
Chatham	5°C	5°C	3°C	3°C	4°C	Ramsgate	4°C	4°C	2°C	3°C	3°C
Dartford	6°C	5°C	3°C	4°C	4°C	Rochester	5°C	5°C	3°C	3°C	4°C
Dover	5°C	4°C	2°C	2°C	3°C	Sevenoaks	4°C	3°C	1°C	2°C	2°C
Faversham	5°C	5°C	3°C	3°C	4°C	Sittingbourne	5°C	5°C	3°C	3°C	4°C
Folkestone	5°C	4°C	2°C	2°C	3°C	Tonbridge	5°C	4°C	2°C	2°C	4°C
Gillingham	5°C	5°C	3°C	3°C	4°C	Tun Wells	5°C	4°C	2°C	2°C	4°C

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Homes should cash in by generating their own electricity

DEMAND for solar panels is set to soar after the Government announced a support scheme allowing householders to make an income from generating their own power, a renewable-energy researcher has predicted, *writes Jenna Pudelek*.

Kent Green Party member Steve Plater said he was planning to install a photovoltaic (PV) system on the roof of his Sevenoaks home that will convert solar radiation into enough electricity to meet three-quarters of his needs and save about £500 a year in energy bills.

Energy and climate change secretary Ed Miliband unveiled the new scheme this week; it will see 'feed-in tariffs' (FITs) paid to people, com-

munities and businesses who generate electricity from solar panels, wind turbines or other renewable sources.

PV panels on household roofs will get a higher feed-in tariff and all will be up-rated with inflation each year. Mr Plater said that after his system was installed he would make about £1,000 a year in payments as a result.

"Anyone who has got money sitting in a building society account would get a much better return by investing it in solar electricity," he said.

The Government said the sector would supply two per cent of the UK's electricity by 2020.

However, the Conservative Party and environmental campaigners

have said the announcement lacks ambition.

Shadow energy and climate change secretary Greg Clark, the MP for Tunbridge Wells, said: "FITs are essential to allow decentralised energy to play a major role in our energy mix, but Labour's proposals lack ambition."

"Ministers should have been bolder with this scheme so more jobs could have been created and greater emissions reductions achieved."

Mr Plater, who gives talks about microgeneration of renewable energy across Kent, said: "It is really not ambitious enough – Germany already generates two per cent of its electricity from solar."

"The key point about renewable energy and energy efficiency is they go together and you can deploy them in hundreds of thousands of places very quickly."

"It is much quicker than building huge power stations – nuclear or coal takes years and years and they are not going to help us achieve climate-change targets by 2020."

"And we are the last major country in Europe to bring FITs in. Germany has had one since 2000."

However, Mr Plater thought that FITs would make renewable energy systems such as PV panels more attractive to householders.

"There are other reasons people want it, but clearly money is an

important driver – being able to finance it matters and also feeling independent from energy companies.

"If you can generate three-quarters of electricity from your own roof you largely escape future price rises."

Initial installation costs were high, with panels costing £5,000 per kilowatt of capacity, he said.

People can receive grants from the Energy Saving Trust's low-carbon building scheme, but only until March this year. However, with the feed-in tariff income, and saving on electricity bills, it makes an attractive tax-free return on investment of eight to 10 per cent, which is better than most forms of savings account, the Kent Green Party said.



HEROES: The SSFA is celebrating its 125th anniversary and wants your help to raise funds for ex-service personnel

125th birthday appeal to help Armed Forces

AN ORGANISATION that helps Armed Forces personnel is 125 years old this year.

The Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA) helps those currently in the military and servicemen who have left and are in need.

The Kent branch has unveiled a special campaign – SSAFA 125 – which is being launched with a service of celebration at Westminster Abbey on Thursday, February 18.

Suresh Khanna, the county's director of public affairs for the group, said: "To mark our 125th anniversary we are launching Target 125 and asking everyone to 'Be a Hero' and raise £125 for SSAFA Forces Help in 2010."

Adapted

"Every contribution will help us to meet our pledge to support our troops and their families, now and for the rest of their lives."

"As the number of fatalities and serious injuries sustained in Afghanistan continues to rise, SSAFA's family-support groups are playing a vital role in helping relatives come to terms with loss and life-changing injuries."

"To date, 254 British servicemen and women have lost their lives in Afghanistan and this number increases by the day."

He said almost every parish in Kent had a connection with the Armed Forces so it was important to raise as much money as possible to provide service personnel with assistance.

He said: "Working in extremely dangerous and challenging circumstances, SSAFA Forces Help continues to provide our servicemen and women and their families with the practical support they need."

"Over the course of more than a century SSAFA has adapted and evolved to meet the changing needs of our Armed Forces."

The organisation was founded in 1885 to support troops and families of the second

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

expeditionary force to Egypt. One of its current patrons is Prince Michael of Kent.

As well as fatalities, many servicemen and women return home from war zones seriously wounded.

SSAFA's two recently-opened Norton Homes, in Birmingham and Ashstead, Surrey, allow injured troops to spend time with their loved ones away from the hospital environment where they are being treated, giving them the opportunity to do normal family things such as eat a meal together or simply watch a film.

David Culmer, chairman of the south-east London branch, said: "In Bromley and Bexley we are running events throughout the year – look out for our flag day on February 13 in supermarkets, our quiz night for Heroes on May 14, and our band concert in October."

To help, go to www.ssafa125.org.uk or phone the Kent county secretary on 01580 891507.

• A castle ball is being held at Lympne Castle on Saturday, February 27, to raise money for the Help For Heroes charity.

Party-goers can explore the entire castle and tuck into a curry feast and crêperie. There will also be a live jazz band followed by a disco in the castle's grand ballroom.

Being raffled and auctioned on the night will be a pair of Andy Murray-signed shorts, artwork signed by the Kaiser Chiefs and signed CDs from Tom Jones, Sting and The Stereophonics, plus other celebrity items.

The chairy has donated more than £23 million to help servicemen and women since its conception.

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QUESTION & ANSWER

TOBIAS SCHWENN



Q How did you become a baker?

A I always enjoyed baking and cooking at home from an early age and decided to make it my profession. I learnt in an organic bakery in Berlin. I think I worked for about six years in that business, finished my apprenticeship early after two and a half years and decided to move on after gaining a lot of work experience. I went back to school to learn all the theory behind the craft but quickly found out that was not the right thing for me, so I moved to England to bake bread again. I was lucky, as I found a bakery using similar methods baking good bread I was used to and believed in.

Q What is the difference between slow bread and normal bread?

A The amount of time used to make it, but also the ingredients. In most other breads you can find a long ingredients list on the label. Even at your local bakery there might be baking aids or dough improvers, and their production could also use artificial enzymes. I only use water, flour, sea-salt and maybe olive or sunflower oil. I take advantage of the traditional techniques using a sourdough or ferment, leading to a natural fermentation of the dough. In simple words the flour is being pre-digested by the micro-organisms of the ferment leading to a complex, mild-sour, flavourful taste of the bread. The whole process of making my bread takes from 16 to 24 hours. I make the ferment which rests

overnight, make the dough which rests about half an hour and then shape the loaves that have to rise for about another two hours, and bake them for an hour or longer. To initiate the right balance of micro-organisms in the ferment I use a starter made of honey, chickpeas and flour. It is only used once to be on the safe side.

Q How can you bake without yeast?

A I can't, I just do not add baker's yeast. Many people find bread made using this sort of yeast bloats them, not only because of the yeast itself but also because of the large amounts used and the time-saving techniques which are employed. In small amounts we have natural yeast all around us; it is about cultivating the right yeast with the right temperature. Put flour and water together, keep it at 27°C for a day, keep adding flour and water in equal amounts and after a few days you will have a yeasty-smelling starter you can use to make bread. It is good to be on the safe side and buy a starter from a whole-food shop or get it from someone you know that makes good sourdough bread.

Q What breads do you bake?

A I bake rye bread and sprouted rye bread which are both wholemeal loaves. I also make mixed spelt bread which is also a wholemeal loaf and suitable for a wheat-free diet but still lighter in texture than a rye loaf. Although

spelt is an ancient relative to wheat it is tolerated by most people suffering from a wheat allergy. I make seeded breads and also plain white bread where you can really taste and feel the difference between this and a yeasty loaf. Then there is the ciabatta which is made using an extra-long fermentation process leading to a very open but dense texture.

Q Do you bake anything else?

A It seems that the baker in me can't just bake bread, so alongside seasonal breads like pumpkin, onion or potato bread I started to go deeper into my craft and make pretzels, croissants, stollen, lebkuchen, puff pastry and anything else I think I would like to do, although I can't do some things without the added baker's yeast.

Q How can people get hold of slow bread?

A I offer a free local delivery service, but would love to expand that into Canterbury for February. People can come to the Whitstable Farmers' Market which takes place on the second and fourth Saturday of each month, or could go to Elham Farmers' Market on the fourth Sunday of every month. The Cheese Box and Windy Corner Stores and Café in Whitstable offer my bread alongside some yeasted specialities and the Macknade Food Hall outside Faversham offers most of my breads.

Q&A

Reporter **Jenny Armstrong** talks to Whitstable baker Tobias Schwenn about the art of baking bread, where and how he trained and about the process of making his healthier additive free 'slow bread'

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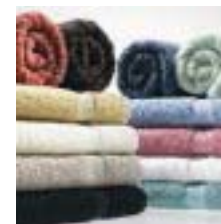


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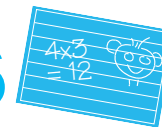
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BREAK TIME

Science festival set to amaze visitors

A FESTIVAL of science is coming to Canterbury during half-term.

On the February 17 to 18 the Kent Science Festival will be on at Canterbury College.

Shows include Light Fantastic, The Air Show, The Amazing Bubble Show and Waterworld. Activities include a building challenge and a solar grand prix.

The festival runs from 9.30am to 3.30pm and tickets cost £6.50.

Lifting the gloom

PUPILS at Canterbury College dispelled the gloom of the most depressing day of the year, January 25, with charitable and cosy activities.

Teenagers created hot chocolate with extra cream and marshmallows, baked cup-cakes, played games and relaxed in a beanbag area.

The event raised £100 for the Haiti earthquake appeal.

Annual lecture date

CANTERBURY Christ Church University hosts its annual Martin Luther King lecture this Wednesday.

Prof John Kirk, Professor of US History at Royal Holloway, University of London, will be exploring the memory and legacy of Dr King in modern American society.

The lecture, which is free, takes place in Old Sessions House, Longport, Canterbury, at 6pm on Wednesday, February 10.

Charity week raises more than £2,000 for Haiti fund

■ BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

THE Haiti appeal has received a boost thanks to the rapid response fundraising efforts of girls and staff at the Simon Langton school.

Girls and teachers at the Canterbury school have raised more than £2,000 in one week, with events including a non-uniform day, a charity auction, a talent show and cake sales.

The pupils raised £2,158, and the sixth form charity team who supervised the events sent off a huge cheque to the Haiti appeal last Monday.

Jessica Walsh, a sixth-form charity representative, said: "We got the whole school involved. One of the Year 8 forms did a 'Langton's Got Talent' show.

"I really enjoyed the auction because people were buying sherbet for ridiculous amounts – one girl bought 40p worth of sherbet for £2.20.

"One of the Year 8 forms baked cakes all night and did a massive cake sale. As a form they raised £150, and there are only 30 students in that form."

The sixth-form charity representatives had the charity week for Haiti because so many other pupils were keen to do something to help the appeal.

Miss Walsh said: "Haitians really need the money at the moment and every little helps. The girls at the Langton are very generous. Every week we have a different charity event going on, and the teachers really get involved too."

Heather Turnbull, a teacher at the school,



JOINT EFFORT: Girls from Simon Langton Grammar School with the money they have raised for the Haiti appeal

said: "There is a tradition of outstanding charity work at the school, but on this occasion the girls have surpassed themselves. They have used their creative talents and have come together to help the people of Haiti."

So far the Disasters Emergency Committee appeal has raised £70 million to help people in Haiti recover from the devastating earthquake. To donate go to www.dec.org.uk or call 0370 60 60 900.

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One MP is using the iPhone to stay in touch with his voters, but it won't catch on, says Gary Wright

Why most MPs aren't really ready for the superhighway

FANTASTIC story this week about MP Derek Wyatt who has launched the iPhone* app to let his constituents stay in touch with him.

For those of you unfamiliar with the technological wizardry, it means simply that using your iPhone* (you all have one don't you?) you can contact Sittingbourne's Mr Wyatt and interact anytime.

I admire Mr Wyatt (or 'two pork pies and a Scotch egg' as he's affectionately known after the expenses debacle) for taking up the challenge of bringing new tech to the masses and I honestly wish him well in his quest to engage even more closely with his constituents.

Unfortunately I forecast a rush to the Apple Store by the 10-or-so constituency nutters – that plague every MP – so that they can back up their weekly letters to Mr Wyatt.

Even the biggest Luddite must have heard of the Apple app? If you believe the ads on telly the iPhone* can be made to do anything and

while it might not make the tea, there is probably an app that tells you how to make the perfect cuppa (and probably some information about blending).

But times really are a changin' and our MPs will do anything to get down with the kids and interact. Whether they are Twittering (er, another social network craze for those too lazy to write more than 20 words at a time) to guesting on any TV show which claims viewers under 25.

There is a part of me, a very small part, that believes MPs really do wish to make the world a better place and to give a voice to their constituents no matter how marginalised.

Mr Wyatt (who already runs a good website) said: "I certainly hope that now people know it can be done, and that citizens want to engage in this way, my colleagues at home and abroad take this idea and make it even better for their constituents."

The app was written by public sector digital agency, Public Zone, and is available free of charge from the Apple iTunes store.

Public Zone intends to roll out the MyMP

app, which also integrates with Google Maps, to other MPs this month.

I wish Mr Wyatt well but I foresee a slight problem with his fellow MPs.

Modern technology is pretty damn clever. The iPhone* is a very smart piece of kit. But because of their GPS abilities and the marvel of Google Maps (from satellite pictures right down to a picture of your front garden just from a postcode), the iPhone* can tell you exactly where you are. Oh yes, and it can tell everyone else exactly where you are.

Brilliant for parents who want to watch their kids (but who'd trust them with a 500 quid phone?) but not perhaps for your average MP.

Do they really want people to know exactly where they are every minute of the day?

I suspect not, far too risky... though I guess they could always leave their iPhone* in the House of Commons on answerphone while they slipped off to do other things.

* Other smartphones are cheaper: Google Nexus, Nokia N900, HTC Hero but they haven't the hype (or such a successful App Store).

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WIN! tickets to see Percy Jackson & The Lightning Thief, plus goodies

IT'S the 21st century, but the gods of Mount Olympus and assorted monsters have walked out of the pages of high school student Percy Jackson's Greek mythology texts and into his life.

And they're not happy: Zeus' lightning bolt has been stolen and Percy is the prime suspect. Even more troubling is the sudden disappearance of Percy's mother. As Percy adapts to his newly discovered status as a demigod (his father is Poseidon), he finds himself caught between the battling titans of Mt Olympus.

He and his friends embark on a cross-country adventure to catch the true lightning thief, save Percy's mom and unravel a mystery more powerful than the gods themselves.

Your Midweek newspaper series has FIVE pairs of luxury seat tickets to see Percy Jackson & The Lightning Thief – showing at cinemas from February 12 – courtesy of VUE cinema in Thanet plus FIVE packs of goodies up for grabs.



To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to

VUE Cinema Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is February 15, 2010.

Question: From what date is Percy Jackson & The Lightning thief showing in cinemas?

No purchase necessary. For our full Terms and Conditions please visit www.kentnews.co.uk, or for a posted copy of the T&Cs call 01303 817073. If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.



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TALK TIME

ANDY SCOTT-CLARK

The deputy director of public health talks about his job and how health chiefs decide what to spend their £1.2billion budget on



Tell us a little bit about yourself

I have worked in public health since 1996. I was appointed director of public health for Swale Primary Care Trust in 2002 and took over the role of deputy director of public health for NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent on its inception on 1 October 2006.

I have a masters degree in public health and I am listed on the UK public health register. I was born in New Zealand and I trained as a pharmacist in Wellington. I came to England in 1986 and like many kiwis I never made it back.

What's the population, geographical area and budget of NHS Eastern and Coastal?

The population of NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent is around 710,000 covering the districts of Ashford, Canterbury, Dover, Shepway, Swale and Thanet. We have a budget of more than £1.2 billion and it's our job to work closely with the public and patients to identify their health needs.

How do you prioritise what's important for each area?

Our key priorities for the next five years include breaking the cycle of inequalities, revolutionising services for older people, tackling the key killers of vascular disease, cancer and respiratory disease, promoting wellbeing and good mental health and transforming the life chances of disadvantaged people.

What's the top priority at the moment?

Our top priority is currently the management of what could be a long and difficult winter.

YOUR LETTERS

THOUSANDS OF HOMES ENGULF OUR VILLAGES?

New fears that communities will merge as council reveals the huge swathes of countryside earmarked for new development

BY JENNY ARMSTRONG
The villages of Chartham, Littlebourne and Nackington could finally see the end of their rural status as Kent County Council has revealed plans to build thousands of new homes on the outskirts of the county. The council's new development plan, which was approved last week, sets out a vision for the county's future, including the creation of a new urban area around the town of Canterbury. The plan also identifies areas of countryside that are earmarked for new development, including the area around the town of Canterbury. The council's new development plan, which was approved last week, sets out a vision for the county's future, including the creation of a new urban area around the town of Canterbury. The plan also identifies areas of countryside that are earmarked for new development, including the area around the town of Canterbury.

Stop building houses, build relationships

Your article regarding the vast swathes of pastoral land allocated for future housing development made chilling reading (Thousands of homes engulf our villages? February 3).

Kent County Council executive decision makers have hatched a plan that over the next 15 years will change villages like Littlebourne, Nackington and Chartham beyond all recognition.

The thousands of new homes earmarked for construction will, if they are built, turn Canterbury's surrounding villages into urban extensions of the city.

This mass of houses sprawling ever onwards will render picturesque villages indistinguishable from the noisy, over-populated suburbs they are at present detached from.

Quite why the council believes all of this extra housing is so necessary in a district already suffering from the effects of overcrowding is unfathomable.

If councils were less willing to give property developers the



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Beneath most stories on the www.yourcanterbury.co.uk website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article. To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think. And remember, www.yourcanterbury.co.uk is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across Canterbury as well as our villages.

We will include the best on these pages too - ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience. In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yourcanterbury before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out.

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green light to cover every available space in bricks and mortar, then perhaps the demand for new homes would decrease as impetuous siblings - often too hasty to live the independent single life - remained with their

parents for longer.

This would help strengthen the family unit in a time when relationships are under pressure and reduce the need for more homes in the process.

Clive Wilkins-Oppler, Canterbury

Go the extra mile to save our villages

Can someone please tell me why we need to suffer an additional 10,000 homes in our district? I read your front page story last week with sadness.

I know that people need to live somewhere but it seems the south east and Kent especially, is just set to become a huge building site.

Surely with better trains and road links there is no need for everyone to be forced into this small corner of Britain.

Please can someone reconsider and save our villages from merging into a sprawling estate that goes on for miles.

Jenna Davies, by email

Let children discover life is full of risks

Bravo Julian Brazier for seeking an end to our culture of compensation, which threatens to stop children trying anything, which I read in last week's Yourcanterbury.

At last someone who recognise that the nanny state is doing wrong by stopping our children from getting the chance to take part in anything that carries 'a risk'.

Life is a risk and youth leaders should not be hampered by the threat of legal action if there is an accident.

Parents too must recognise that for the good of their children's development, they should be allowed to sample a wide variety of pursuits.

Arthur Smith, by email



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Feed-in-tariff system is an energy boost

Kent Green Party welcomes feed-in tariffs for small scale renewable energy, announced by the Government on February 1.

The Green Party has long campaigned for a feed-in tariff, which has been used successfully in other countries to boost microgeneration of renewable energy.

The new UK feed-in tariff provides a long-term guaranteed price for all electricity that is generated.

An extra tariff is paid for electricity fed into the grid. The feed-in tariff income and saving on electricity purchased yields an attractive tax free return on investment of about eight to 10 per cent, better than most forms of savings account.

Tim Valentine, who lives in Selling and is the Green Party candidate for Faversham and Mid Kent at the general election, had a photovoltaic system installed on Friday (January 29). In most cases planning permission for a photovoltaic (PV) system is not required. He says: "The panels have already generated 20 units of electricity, even in the weak January sunshine. The system will generate 60 per cent of the

electricity we use.

The feed-in tariff will provide an income of about £1,000 a year and reduce our electricity bill by a further £170. The whole system was installed and commissioned in a couple of days. Green Party policy is to create a million new jobs in areas such as renewable energy, energy efficiency, and public transport. Installing PV systems, for example, creates jobs for roofers, scaffolders, electricians and project managers."

Kent Green Party, by email

Parachute your way to preventing cancer

Do any of your readers want to take up a challenge for the New Year? Then I am writing to let people in the local area know about our skydive campaign.

Doing a sponsored skydive is a really different way to raise money for charity and a great way to start 2010.

Anyone who raises £395 or more for us at World Cancer Research Fund (WCRF) will also be able to skydive for free.

Any money raised from a sponsored skydive will help us to continue to fund our research and education programmes on the link between

lifestyle and cancer. If you want to find out more about how to take part in a sponsored skydive, visit www.wcrf-uk.org/fundraising or call 0207 343 4200 for more information.

Natalie Tarrant, Events Manager, World Cancer Research Fund

Help raise awareness of deadly meningitis

If any of your readers have questions or concerns about meningitis we would urge them to take part in Meningitis UK's latest initiative called Ask the Expert.

It's a unique opportunity which gives members of the public direct access to medical professionals at the forefront of treating and fighting the disease.

Until Friday, February 19, visit www.meningitisuk.org/asktheexpert and pose any question on the subject of preventing meningitis.

Leading professors have been lined-up to respond to the questions and answers will go live on February 25.

This Ask the Expert session is accompanied by an online quiz and interactive symptoms puzzle, arming people with vital knowledge to spot the disease before it's too late.

Kate Rowland, Meningitis UK

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yourcanterburymusic

Hip hop title up for grabs, and ShyChlo is in running



■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

WHEN grime star Lady Sovereign entered the Big Brother house last month she left her 'queen of UK hip hop' title and arguably her credibility at the door.

Pretenders to the throne are now intent on climbing the charts and claiming her crown.

One such would-be queen is Canterbury MC/writer/producer ShyChlo.

The 22-year-old has drawn the interest of a number of industry movers and shakers since bursting on to the live scene in 2008 and looks certain to draw more attention with the release of her debut single Mental Confusion later this year.

ShyChlo said her success was down to her lyrics, which go beyond the tired hip hop subjects of guns and violence.

"I just write and say what I feel, going beyond the glitz and glamour of the stereotypical 'rags to riches' hip hop, and focusing on issues like the struggles and peer pressures of today's youth – politics, religion and personal insecurities."

ShyChlo is something of a genre merger, drawing influences from UK hip hop, rock, punk and funk.

It's this fusion that saw new independent record label Flickfinger Records sign the young artist up.

Co-founder Kieron Corcoran said: "ShyChlo has a very clever mix of UK hip hop, rock and other musical styles."

"Her sound isn't affected by the US hip hop scene and so it's unique."



LINE-UP: MC Devlin, above, and rapper XO Man, right, will be supporting ShyChlo, left, at the Hazlitt Theatre this weekend



"She's got a lot of great feedback through the Myspace page and the fanbase is growing really quickly."

ShyChlo will perform at the Hazlitt Theatre, Maidstone, this Friday, backed by her four-piece band.

Support on the night comes from Hugo Urban Rules winning rapper XO Man and Dagenham-born grime MC Devlin.

For more information visit www.myspace.com/shychlomusic

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Heartthrobs McFly perform in Rochester.



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TOP FIVE KENT GIGS

- 1 Gristlefridge - Unbreakable (from Whitstable)
- 2 Craig Sheridan- Times Change (from Deal)
- 3 Shelta - We Can Make It Happen (from Bexley)
- 4 Directions - Equality Street (from Maidstone)
- 5 The Semantics - Soho Nympho (from Gillingham)

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*Signal strength and reception varies throughout the UK and may mean a booster aerial is required in certain areas. The TV relies on a standard TV aerial as a minimum where signals are weak and is not designed to work with a satellite dish.

**Takes SD, MS, and MMS memory cards, and reads WMA, JPEG, MP3, and MPEG4 formats.



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yourleisure



Take a trip to Toytown

Noddy and Big Ears are joined by all their friends for a big party, but naughty Sly and Gobbo have other plans

NODDY

Various dates
Various venues



PAY a visit to Toy Town in the company of a children's favourite when Noddy returns to Kent.

Children all over the county have the chance to see the cheeky young chap and all his friends on stage in this colourful and exciting stage show.

With lots of songs and dances for the audience to join in, this is a fun-packed production for children of all ages. The tour also coincides with the 60th anniversary of Enid Blyton's enduringly popular creation.

It is the start of an exciting day in Toy Town because there is a special event lined up for the residents. Noddy and Tessie Bear are planning a sing-along, dance-along party.

The only people who are not welcome are the two naughty goblins, Sly and Gobbo, who cannot be trusted to behave well and not try to spoil everyone's enjoyment.

Armed with the Sound Sucker, another bizarre machine from Goblin Gizmos, the naughty pair set out to ruin the party. But their wicked plans could yet be thwarted by Noddy, who is determined to keep an eye on the goblins and make sure the day is not spoiled.

All the popular residents of Toy Town appear in the 90-minute show, including Mr Plod, Whiz the Robot, Bumpy Dog and Noddy's best friend,

Big Ears. Together they invite all the children to take part in a fun-filled adventure that provides a great introduction to live theatre.

Noddy made his first appearance in 1949 and became an icon of children's literature, providing the perfect way for youngsters to discover Blyton's writing. During the 20-year period between his creation and Blyton's death, 154 books featuring Noddy were produced and there was a wealth of Noddy merchandise for fans to buy, from Noddy toothbrushes and soap to nightdresses and bedside lights.

The Noddy Live show can be seen at the Central Theatre, Chatham on Sunday, February 21; the Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone, on Monday, April 12 and the Woodville Halls, Gravesend on Thursday, June 3.



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CANTERBURY TALES

Saturday, February 13 to Sunday,
February 21
Canterbury Tales, Canterbury

SEE if you can spot a mobile phone in a medieval pocket at the Canterbury Tales this half term.

To mark the school break, the attraction has selected 10 items that 21st century pilgrims would not leave home without and hidden them among the 14th century travellers. Visitors are invited to spot these incongruous items – which range from a Mars bar to an Ordnance Survey map – as they make their way through the fascinating attraction in St Margaret's Church.

The Canterbury Tales allows visitors to step back in time and experience the sights, sounds and smells of life in the city 700 years ago. The fun and educational exhibits not only offer the chance to learn about



Canterbury's history, but also to discover the great literary work of Geoffrey Chaucer.

Join Chaucer and his band of pilgrims as they make their way from London to

Canterbury Cathedral, with five of his best-loved tales being brought to life on the way.

For more information visit www.canterburytales.org.uk or call 01227 784600.

MAWKIN: CAUSLEY

Sunday, February 14
The Playhouse, Whitstable

YOUTH and vigour combine with traditional music to rousing effect in the band Mawkin:Causley.

Described as 'one hell of a folkie boy band', the group is the result of a collaboration between two exciting talents.

Essex rascals Mawkin have joined forces with acclaimed Devon vocalist Jim Causley to create a formidable band that has already made a big noise on the folk scene.

After being together less than 18 months, the new entity was nominated for a BBC Folk Award last year and went on to receive two nominations for this year's awards, in the Best Group and Best Traditional Track categories.

Joining Causley in the lineup are brothers James and



David Delarre, Danny Crump and Alex Goldsmith, all formerly known as Mawkin. Adding melodeons, electric bass and acoustic guitar to Causley's rich, melodic vocals, they have created a sound that has

been praised by Bob Harris, Mike Harding and even BBC6 Music, a station usually more concerned with indie bands.

The concert starts at 7.45pm and tickets cost £12. See www.folkinthebarn.co.uk

BARRON KNIGHTS

Friday, February 12,
Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury

DURING their 50-year career, the Barron Knights have attracted some impressive celebrity fans.

With their wit, humour and musicianship, the band has entertained audiences all over the world and can also claim to have inspired some of our most legendary musicians.

When a certain Bill Wyman saw them perform at the Aylesbury Town Hall in 1962, he decided to go out and buy a guitar. One day, during a recording session at the Abbey Road studios, a young Paul McCartney interrupted to ask what the band thought of his new song, a ditty called Hey Jude.

That was the same day that the Knights also introduced McCartney and Lennon to their session



piano player, a man by the name of Reg Dwight – who would become better known as global superstar, Sir Elton John.

Band member Pete Langford has a personal connection to Canterbury, as he

used to look after Nubar Gulbenkian's horses when he was a boy.

The show starts at 7.45pm and tickets cost £16.50. Book online at www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk or call 01227 769075.

CANTERBURY LEISURE

Classic comedy marks 50 years of learning

A FRUSTRATED student takes a second chance at learning in Willy Russell's acclaimed play, *Educating Rita*.

To mark 40 years of innovative learning, the Open University has teamed up with Pitchy Breath Theatre to present this story. Before the performance, OU staff will be taking questions about study opportunities.

The show is at the Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury, at 7.45pm next Tuesday and Wednesday. Book at www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk or on 01227 769075.

Take nostalgic journey back to 50s with Ricky

GET ready to rock and roll with 50s and 60s tribute act, Ricky Fontayne.

An evening of nostalgic music is on offer at the Littlebourne Recreation Club in Littlebourne from 8.30pm on Saturday. For more information about the venue call Debbie on 01227 720841.

Find out more about Ricky online at www.rickyfontayne.com.

Laughter guaranteed at club comedy night

RIBS will be tickled at Orange Street Music Club as Orange Wednesdays Comedy Night returns.

Tonight's showcase features Edward Aczel, Sara Pascoe and Alex Maple. The fun starts at 8.30pm and tickets cost £6.

For details visit www.orangestreetmusic.com or call 01227 760801.

Children's favourites to host fun at museum

CHILDREN are invited to join Bagpuss and Rupert the Bear for a fun morning at the Museum of Canterbury.

Stories, creative art and singing can be enjoyed from 10am on Thursday. Materials and refreshments will be provided. Admission costs £2 per child with an accompanying adult.

For details visit www.canterbury-museums.co.uk.

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Disney breaks with tradition and casts its first ever African-American princess in this enchanting reworking of the Grimm Brothers' fairytale.

EDGE OF DARKNESS (15)



Mel Gibson and Ray Winstone star in this dark thriller, adapted from a 1985 BBC mini-series. Gibson plays a veteran detective forced to investigate the murder of his daughter after she's killed in front of him.

SEX & DRUGS & ROCK & ROLL (15)



Distinguished by an incendiary lead performance from Andy Serkis, Sex & Drugs & Rock & Roll is a biopic of 1970s punk pioneer Ian Dury that is as unconventional and fantastical as the man himself.

Two for price of one as Cera tackles double role

■ BY KATE WHITING

YOUTH In Revolt stars one of Hollywood's up-and-coming stars in Michael Cera, who's made his name through a string of geeky roles in Juno, Superbad and last year's Nick And Norah's Infinite Playlist.

At 21, Cera is no newcomer to the big screen – he's been acting since he was nine – but it was his role as High School student father Paulie Bleeker in Juno that made critics take notice. He was even nominated last year for the Bafta Orange Rising Star Award.

In Youth In Revolt, he plays strait-laced teen Nick Twisp, who has a taste for the finer things in life like Sinatra and Fellini.

On a family holiday, he falls for free-spirited Sheeni who eggs him on to create a rebellious French alter ego: Francois. Sporting a moustache and smoking, Francois takes Nick in an outrageous new direction, as he tries to win Sheeni's love.

Canadian Cera had long been a fan of author C.D. Payne, who wrote the book Youth In Revolt: The Journals Of Nick Twisp, on which the film is based, and was signed up to the project before Juno and Superbad even hit our screens.

"The book is really funny. It's got a really unique voice and it's gigantic, it takes months to read if you're a slow reader. I was around the age of Nick when I read it and I completely related to it," says Cera, with a half-smile.

"I related to the agony of not knowing what's going on and being obsessed with a girl and not having any control, which Payne wrote really perfectly."



ALTER EGO: Michael Cera as French Francois

When Nick meets Sheeni, he's feeling completely disillusioned about his mundane existence. Cera explains: "Nick doesn't have a great home life. His parents are divorced, his mother has an idiot boyfriend and his life is stagnant. He meets this girl who blows his mind and he feels he has to hang on to her."

Cera reportedly split from his actress girlfriend Charlyne Yi last summer after they co-

VIEW THIS PREVIEW

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starred in indie project Paper Heart. He says he can relate to the 'torment' Nick suffers through his love for the mysterious Sheeni.

"You never know what she feels about you or what she's really thinking. She's such a puzzle. That's really what I loved about the character. She's so well-depicted in the book."

Despite having to play two very different characters in the same film, Cera insists he didn't find this difficult. In fact, he loved the opportunity to play a naughty version of Nick.

"It was just a lot of fun to play. I wouldn't say it was hard, except for the technical tricks of it. I can't think of any challenges, except for trying to figure out how to play Francois initially, and what the voice was going to be like."

YOUTH IN REVOLT
Certificate 15

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Square catwalk will put a spring in your step

IDEAS for a spring makeover can be found at County Square Shopping Centre in Ashford this weekend.

On Saturday there will be four funky shows taking place on the catwalk in the main mall, outside Costa Coffee, in which the latest looks for women, men and children will be displayed.

The shows start at 11.30am, 1pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm. For more information visit www.countysquashopping-centre.com.

What a sparkling treat for February 14th

ANYONE who has left buying their Valentine gift until the last minute could find help at Magnolia Jewellery in Tunbridge Wells.

The shop in Royal Victoria Place offers an Express Gift Service and their Style Experts will make sure you leave with exactly the right present for your partner, beautifully wrapped within five minutes.

Magnolia has unveiled its special Heart Collection just for Valentine's Day. Find out more at the shop or call 01892 546103.

Desserts will put loved ones on cloud nine

SAY it with meringues this Valentine's Day by treating your object of desire to a mouth-watering dessert.

Faversham-based Head in the Clouds has created delicious and inexpensive treats. Head in the Clouds products are available from Fenwicks of Canterbury, Howfield Manor at Chartham Hatch and Taywell Tunbridge Wells, also online at www.headinthecLOUDS.uk.com. The shop at Whitstable Harbour Village will re-open on March 20.

Support breast cancer with these gift ideas

YOUR Valentine will be tickled pink with a Breast Cancer Campaign Wrappz gadget cover.

The adhesive covers are now available with the campaign's pink ribbon design, the perfect way to show support for the charity while having a pretty adornment on your iPhone, iPod, mobile or laptop.

The Wrappz cost £4.99 and £2.60 goes straight to the charity. Buy Breast Cancer Campaign Wrappz at www.wrappz.com or www.breastcancercampaign.org.

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yourcanterburytimeout

YOUR TV REVIEW

■ BY TOM BETTS

COMING OF AGE BBC Three, 10.30pm, Tuesday

IF ever there was a TV show from which not to take a comedic lead, then it's the never-not-appalling mess that is Two Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps.

Despite being one of the least funny sit-coms ever made it has now run for eight series, proving that someone out there must be watching it.

I didn't think it was possible for a show to be less funny or more moronic until I saw Coming Of Age, the latest BBC Three laugh-free zone, which is undeniably influenced by its bigger brother.

Here we meet our five main characters – three lads and two girls who attend the local sixth-form college.

They dress like they've been sponsored by Topshop and talk as if they have been locked in a room listening to Fearné Cotton since the day they were born.

They think of little else but who's going out with whom, when they are next getting drunk, and, erm... no, actually, that's it.

One recent episode had one of the female leads, a frizzy-haired girl whose name I have blocked out through trauma, boasting of relieving herself in a pub car park because the toilets were locked or blocked.

The pub, by the way, was called The Beaver (geddit?!).

I hate this show – it makes me wonder why I am alive.

It is a terrible waste of time and may well have been written by 12-year-olds on their school lunch break between games of Pokemon and mouthfuls of cheese strings.

Yet, as much as I hate it, strangely I find myself drawn in.

I wonder if one day it will ever



NO LAUGHING MATTER: Joe Tracini plays DK in BBC Three's so-called sit-com Coming of Age

make me laugh, or if I'll ever see the point, or if a plotline will involve any kind of imagination other than the bleedin' obvious.

Three of the characters are just plain annoying, but they seem like two of the screen's great creations when compared with one of the others.

Darren, or DK, is an imbecile of the very highest order.

He's the kind of tracksuited village idiot who goes into a trance when somebody mentions 'boobs' or 'bum' and is what makes the whole sorry affair plunge through the bottom of the barrel and start tunnelling for Australia with a JCB.

I read that the first series of this abomination is available on DVD.

I'm planning to buy a copy and blow it up with TNT.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

YOU'LL get a divine opportunity to put your expertise to work this week. If you play your cards right you could become a renowned expert in your field. You have to admit that it will be lovely having your pick of job offers. A best friend or colleague may be jealous of your success.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

YOU could be handed some serious work responsibilities. Although these tasks fall outside of your normal job description, give them a whirl anyway. Your boss will be impressed by your versatility. If you are unemployed, apply for jobs in an entirely new industry.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

A FACT-finding mission helps a good friend with their work. If you see someone struggling, offer to do some research on their behalf. It gives you so much satisfaction to offer practical assistance. It may be hard to control your temper with the person you are helping.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

AN institution or hospital can give you the services you need. It's all a matter of filling out the paperwork properly. If you feel as if you're out of your depth, ask a friend for help. Their advice will be invaluable. Your boss may be putting undue pressure on you to meet a deadline.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

MONEY could be tight this week, which is really frustrating. You may not be able to afford all the things you have planned. Don't make lame excuses; be truthful. Friends won't judge you, but they will offer help, both emotional and financial. Accept the former and refuse the latter.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

AN ability to put your creative talent to practical use helps you to travel or study for very little money. Refrain from telling an authority figure what you really think of their methods. Yes, this person is really full of themselves, but they do have the power to hire or fire you.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

THIS is a good time to make a large-scale purchase of some kind. Your first priority should be finding products that are known to be durable. A flashy status symbol may be a big boost to your ego, but it will also dent your budget. Do a little research into which product is best.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

TAKING a class will put you in contact with influential people. If you long to switch industries, you need to surround yourself with those who can further your interests. An egotistical teacher could rub you the wrong way. Fortunately, you don't have to study with this blowhard.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

PAYING off a debt gives you a feeling of pride. It also helps you to spend more time on the activities you love. In the past you may have had to work a couple of jobs to make ends meet. Now that your financial obligations have been fulfilled you can go back something you enjoy.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

PROVIDING stability for your loved ones is a noble endeavour. As a child, you may have been subject to an adult's wayward ways. Not knowing what was going to happen caused you a great deal of anxiety. Now you have an opportunity to create a nurturing environment for your family.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

ALL your hard work is starting to pay off. Although you may not have followed the most secure route to success, you didn't let that stop you from pursuing your dream. However, now that you've achieved some success, a one-time friend has become jealous.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

MORAL integrity is the cornerstone to your success. While your competitors may cut corners or make false claims to attract business, you refuse to stoop that low. Granted, it may take longer for you to attract business, but eventually the public will recognise that you're the best.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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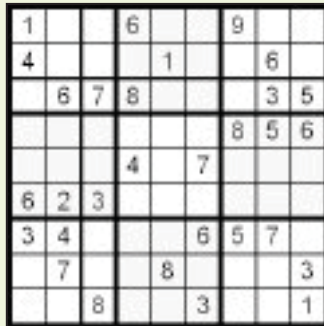
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EASY



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HARD



CRYPTIC CLUES

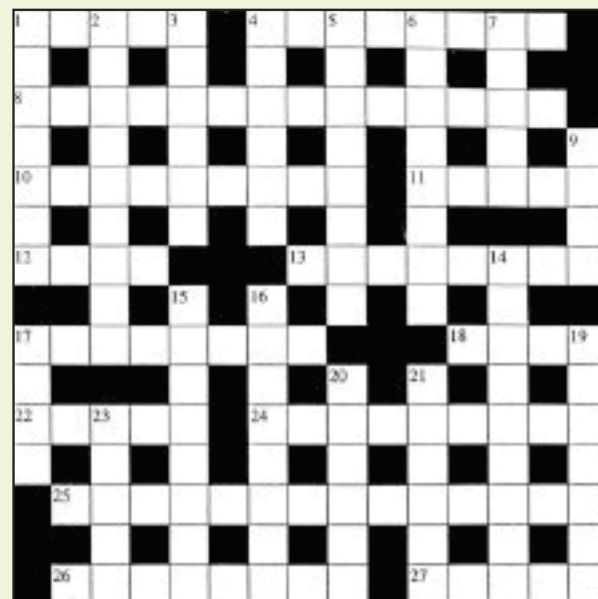
ACROSS

- 1 Greek character thus produced pleasing sounds (5)
- 4 Mabel struggled having endless area to adorn (8)
- 8 Below building basic framework (14)
- 10 Showing layout of 99 matches played (9)
- 11 Didn't have mount for horse show (5)
- 12 Labourer loses five ships (4)
- 13 Patriot said drink must go first (8)
- 17 Question to disappear going round overcome (8)
- 18 English county was familiar in Scotland (4)
- 22 Luxury car encircling one fast car (5)
- 24 Not sure re performing a nice turn (9)
- 25 Market gardening business that is developing (6,8)
- 26 There's no going through it by the way (3-2-3)
- 27 Herb says 'time' (5)

DOWN

- 1 China from SE Nemes (7)
- 2 Secure harbour that's a demilitarised area (4,5)
- 3 Sticky medal in mud (6)
- 4 Being something (6)
- 5 He, mixing with public, found it highly valued (4-4)
- 6 One's second personality to regale monstrosity (5,3)
- 7 In River Soar Edmund rowed (5)
- 9 Habit of refusal? (4)
- 14 At home showing agreement but only roughly (9)
- 15 How Buck dug underground? (8)
- 16 Equivalent US cash Ma exchanged (2,4,2)
- 17 Particularly light? (4)
- 19 Can sort one of the prints (7)
- 20 Railway in dramatic surroundings (6)
- 21 Prince to expel novelist (6)
- 23 Some of decor furnishing island (5)

SCRIBBLE HERE



QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Manufacturer (5)
- 4 Fluctuating (8)
- 8 November 5th (3,6,5)
- 10 Bring in (9)
- 11 One from Des Moines perhaps (5)
- 12 Behind time (4)
- 13 Suicidal attack (8)
- 17 Condemn unheard (8)
- 18 Restraint (4)
- 22 Church council (5)
- 24 Underground fighter (9)
- 25 Intellectual nourishment (4,3,7)
- 26 Spawning (anag.) (8)
- 27 Prepared (5)

DOWN

- 1 Fool (7)
- 2 Single operation on typewriter (9)
- 3 Motive (6)
- 4 Stop sleeping (4,2)
- 5 Claviers (anag.) (8)
- 6 Nasal inflammation (8)
- 7 Not at all (5)
- 9 Leg joint (4)
- 14 Columbine (9)
- 15 Blind person's helper (5,3)
- 16 Up a gorge (anag.) (3,5)
- 17 Mail (4)
- 19 Brutal (7)
- 20 Bellringer (6)
- 21 Bower (6)
- 23 Ruth's mother-in-law (OT) (5)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No123

EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No123

ACROSS: 1 Jalopy 4 Bremen 10 Sackcloth
11 Valet 12 Padlock 13 Quondam 14
Atmospherical 16 Exchange ideas 21
Fixated 22 Felucca 24 Humph 25
Weathered 26 Natant 27 Antler. DOWN:
1 Joseph 2 Lucid 3 Piccolo 5 Ravioli 6
Melodrama 7 No time 8 Look up and down
9 Chequered flag 15 Tax-exempt 17 Hitchin
18 Dolphin 19 Afghan 20 Zander 23 Coral.

QUICK SOLUTION No124

20 Sexton 22 Ayr 23 Naomir.
Cuide dog 16 Age group 17 Post 19 Beastly
15 Rhinits 7 Now 9 Knee 14 Aquilegia
6 Keystroke 3 Reason 4 Wake up 5 Visceral
2 Wingspan 27 Ready. DOWN:
26 Synod 24 Guerrilla 25 Food for thought 26
Slow 13 Kamikaze 17 Prejudice 18 Curb 22
Fawkes Night 10 Introduct 11 Iowan 12
ACROSS: 1 Maker 4 Wavering 8 Guy



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Tenerife is your paradise found

■ BY HANNAH STEPHENSON

TENERIFE is known as a tourist hot spot sullied by over-development and bad behaviour by visitors.

The island, however, wants a new reputation to lure discerning travellers to its sun-kissed shores.

The largest of the Canary Islands off the coast of north-west Africa, this Spanish isle has a temperate climate year round, rivalling destinations like Dubai and The Gambia for weather, with shorter flights from Britain.

A smattering of exclusive hotels is emerging on the west coast, far from the all-night partying of Playa de las Americas and neighbouring Los Cristianos, where apartments go so far inland they swamp the surrounding hills.

Away from all that is the five-star Sensatori Resort on the outskirts of the village of Alcala, further up the coast, around 10 minutes' drive from the dramatic cliffs of Los Gigantes in the west.

It's here that I discovered a true taste of paradise, taking in the stunning 260m infinity pool, the largest in Europe, the shimmering Atlantic and the neighbouring island of La Gomera.

At Sensatori, the stunning rooms, marble flooring, sparkling chandeliers, fountains, designer decor and dramatic sculptures can take your breath away.

Bag a villa in its Red Level area and you get a butler and private pool within your tropical garden, and an outdoor double bed under a thatched canopy.

At the Sensatori's Michelin-starred Calima restaurant, where chef Dani Garcia is a bit of a celebrity, our 12-course taster menu began with delicious dry-ice cocktails and included delicacies such as foie gras, oysters and truffle cake, accompanied by fine wines, some produced locally.

But it's not only the hotels that are falling over backwards to spruce up this island.

Last year, Siam Park, a water park, opened in the south, boasting the biggest artificial waves in the world at nearly 10ft high. Its surrounding beach is created with tons of silky white sand imported from Portugal.

We hired a private cabana within the park, with its own balcony overlooking the wave pool, to allow us the luxury of a safe TV, DVD and Wi-Fi connection, plus mini-bar, comfortable loungers and an outside shower. If you want a similar package for four, including entrance, fast-track queuing and limited all-inclusive deal in restaurants and bars, it costs a cool 400 euros (£360).

Ecological measures are also being stepped up to save what is left of Tenerife's natural beauty.

Nearly a decade ago, virtually anyone could – and did – take a boat from Los Cristianos to watch whales and dolphins. Many



LAP OF LUXURY: Enjoy some sun-kissed serenity at the Sensatori Resort near Alcala

beautiful creatures were surrounded by boats, with tourists happily snapping away.

Under new rules, boats must be licensed and are carefully monitored to stop whales and dolphins from becoming distressed. The marine guide on our charter said that this had driven away unscrupulous operators and

improved the whales' breeding cycles.

Tenerife is still home to all-night party-goers, English pubs and bacon-and-eggs breakfasts after a heavy night.

But if all you want is peace, quiet and serenity in the ultimate tropical setting all year, it may be closer than you ever imagined.

FACT FILE: TENERIFE

Time difference	0 hours (GMT)
Language	Spanish
Capital	Santa Cruz de Tenerife
Population	900,000
Currency	Euro
Religion	Catholic

Travel Facts

Hannah Stephenson was a guest of Thomson Holidays, which offers seven nights' full board at five-star Sensatori Tenerife in 2010 from £758 per adult (two sharing), including flights ex-Gatwick, transfers and fuel supplement.

Thomson also goes to Tenerife via Luton, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle and Bristol.

Thomson reservations: 0871 236 5596 and www.thomson.co.uk.

Freebird One organises tailor-made private charters to watch whales and dolphins. See www.freebirdone.com for more details.



MAKING WAVES: Relax at the resort's pool

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Off-plan property sales are through the roof

THERE is nothing a builder likes more than to sell a home before it's actually built, and that's exactly what Hillreed is currently enjoying at Greenway, Kings Hill, near Maidstone.

Dean Markall, sales and marketing director at Hillreed, said: "Such is the desire to purchase property, most of the homes in our 'Farmyard complex' at Greenway, are reserved or sold and that is before we have even got the roofs on."

"Buying off plan enables astute buyers to hold the prices at 2009 levels which make financial sense."

"The building societies are still reporting house prices rising month on month, albeit slowly over November, but nevertheless they are on an upward trajectory. We anticipate a healthy market in 2010 which is great news for those who have already invested in bricks and mortar."

Kent to get extra help to prevent repossessions

A KENT MP has welcomed news of extra government help for those facing repossession.

South Thanet Labour member Dr Steve Ladyman said he was pleased about the extra help to tackle house repossession in Thanet.

John Healey, minister for housing said Thanet is among 56 repossession hot spot areas in the UK being targeted for extra help.

Dr Ladyman said: "I am delighted the minister has recognised the need for extra help for Thanet. Thousands of people have already been helped by the Government at this difficult time but there are still people in Thanet having trouble keeping up the mortgage and good, independent advice is vital for them."

Others areas in Kent to benefit are Dartford, Gravesham and Medway.

Nearly 88,000 people have gone to www.direct.gov.uk/mortgagehelp since its launch in September, over 26,000 of whom have used it to develop personal action plans tailored to their individual circumstances.



Property TV SPONSORED BY WWW.THEMORTGAGESHOP.CO.UK



THE FRENCH IDYLL: For many British people the typical rustic French farmhouse remains at the top of their list when they are looking to invest or live in a home abroad



What you should know about buying abroad

■ BY CHRIS MURPHY

KENT'S potential investors in overseas properties will do well to check out homes in France and Italy this year as two of the most stable markets.

The National Association of Estate Agents International said that, as always, any potential profits to be made will be down to the strength of sterling.

It said purchasers should look at what it called 'less risky' investments and in particular towards the more stable markets such as France and Italy.

But for the very best bargains, buyers should try Spain or Turkey, where the former has seen spectacular falls in property prices during the past 18 months.

But the association predicts prices will remain stable in the first quarter of 2010, so purchasers should consider making cash offers by March to secure a bargain in any of these countries.

And experts predict the balance of supply and demand will stabilise once house prices pick up and the pound strengthens against the euro.

Linda Travella, spokeswoman on Italy at NAEA International said: "After a slow start to the year, the last quarter of 2009 saw sales and interest returning to the international market, with Italy being considered a safer investment than many other markets around the world."

"As always, the strength of the pound will

have a significant bearing on the quality and quantity of sales, and this year it looks to stay at the same strength."

"Even though the UK appears to have fallen behind other economies in the race out of recession and economic recovery, sterling has held pretty firm against the single European currency, trading two to three cents either side of 1.10 during the second half of last year."

"For the first quarter of 2010 the number of international buyers is expected to remain low and therefore offers are more likely to be accepted making it a very good time to purchase an overseas property."

"However by late spring, property prices are expected to increase by three to five per cent. Key areas to invest in include Tuscany, Le Marche and the Lakes of Maggiore and Garda, where good deals can be found if you buy sensibly."

And Des Rowson, spokesman on Spain, added: "It has seen a difficult 12 months on the sales front as buyers have been particularly reticent about purchasing during an economic downturn."

"Bargains are available but remember, price reflects position and quality. Unfortunately the coming year will not change too much until we see the pound strengthening and clients accepting that the registered agents do know what purchasers are prepared to pay."

Top 10 tips for buying abroad from www.mortgages.co.uk

- Never sign a contract that you do not understand (for example - if it is in a foreign language).
- Seek specialist advice from independent solicitors, architects and surveyors who know the country's laws.
- Ensure you do not inherit a debt on the property before you purchase, which a solicitor should be able to check - some developers borrow money against the plot to raise finance.
- Always give yourself a 'cooling off' period if you see a 'must-have property' and are tempted to put down a deposit.
- If you are arranging finance on the property, ensure in any contract and you have an 'opt-out clause' if a loan is not agreed.
- Try to arrange your mortgage finance 'in principle', before agreeing to purchase the property or pay a deposit.
- Arrange your mortgage in the currency that you earn in where possible, unless you'll receive rental in local currency.
- Think about combining your cash with friends or family: it could bring a villa with pool within your financial reach.
- Check with the estate agent or vendor that you are aware of the costs charged by the legal and government authorities for purchasing a property. Remember that bills do not end at the asking price
- Open a bank account in your chosen country and ensure you get a Certificate of Importation for the money you bring in from your home country. Set up standing orders in a local bank account to meet bills and taxes. Failure in some countries will land you in court.

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- 2 Reception Rooms
- Rear Garden In Excess Of 80'

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Herne Common | £150,000 - £170,000

- 2 Bedroom Terraced Home
- Downstairs WC, Lounge in Excess of 14'
- NO CHAIN, Car Port Parking

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Whitstable | £124,995

- Modern Kitchen & Shower Room
- Central Location. Recently Refurbished
- Central Heating. Double Bedroom

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Chartham Hatch Offers in excess of £165,000

Cosy but modern cottage consists of lounge, dining room, kitchen, downstairs bathroom. Two bedrooms. Other benefits include rear garden backing onto woodland.

Canterbury Office

01227 457253



Faversham £249,999

Three bedroom semi detached house. The property benefits from a lounge with dining room, kitchen, cloakroom and family bathroom. Garden with workshop. The property is offered for sale with no chain.

Faversham Office

01795 538112



Hersden Offers in excess of £50,000

Perfect for a first time buyer or investor is this one bedroom first floor flat. The accommodation comprises of a lounge, kitchen and bathroom, benefits double glazing and electric heating.

Canterbury Office

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Canterbury £169,995

We are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom semi detached home situated in the popular area of Wincheap which offers local super stores and shops.

Canterbury Office

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Faversham £127,000

Lounge with separate dining room. Central heating. Rear garden. No chain.

Faversham Office

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Aylesham £155,000

Three bedroom terrace house. Lounge, kitchen, utility room and conservatory to the ground floor, with the first floor offering shower room and three bedrooms. Early viewing recommended.

Canterbury Office

01227 457253



Sturry Offers in excess of £200,000

1930's three bedroom semi detached house, three reception rooms, double glazing, off road parking for two vehicles.

Canterbury Office

01227 457253



Faversham £135,000

Located in central Faversham is this one bedroom retirement apartment. The property is well presented and has the safety of being gated. Communal gardens and laundry areas. No chain!

Faversham Office

01795 538112



Faversham Offers in excess of £140,000

A unique two bedroom property situated in the conservation area The Mall. Close to the train station and full of features such as a fireplace and cellar room.

Faversham Office

01795 538112



Faversham £145,000

A well presented two bedroom period property. Lounge with dining room and fitted kitchen, rear garden, family bathroom. Further benefits include both double glazing and gas central heating.

Faversham Office

01795 538112

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Sturry

- Two bedroom semi detached
- kitchen, lounge/dining room
- cloakroom, family bathroom
- driveway
- double glazing
- gas fired central heating
- enclosed rear and side gardens

£157,000

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Canterbury

- Two bedroom lower ground floor flat
- bathroom, lounge with brick fireplace
- utility cupboard and office room

Offers in excess of £145,000

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Sturry

- Two bedroom terrace
- lounge and dining room. Garden
- No chain. Must be viewed

£165,000

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Preston

- Two/three bedroom semi detached
- 120 foot garden, cloakroom
- paved driveway with parking

Asking Price £179,950

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Sturry

- Four bedroom detached bungalow
- lounge, bathroom, kitchen/diner
- Offered for sale with No chain

Offers in excess of £200,000

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Canterbury

- three bedroom semi detached
- lounge, dining room, kitchen,
- conservatory and bathroom

£249,995

CALL OUR CANTERBURY OFFICE 01227 454125



Canterbury

- Two bedroom semi detached house
- lounge, dining room, bathroom
- Double glazing, gas central heating

£159,995

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Hersden

- Three bedroom semi detached house
- lounge/dining room, off road parking
- backing onto open fields

Offers in excess of £169,995

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Canterbury

- Three bedroom semi detached house
- converted into a four bed student let
- let for nine months at £1100pcm

Asking Price £179,995

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Canterbury

- Three bedroom semi detached
- lounge/dining rm, kitchen, conservatory
- Central heating, gardens, garage

£220,000

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Canterbury

- Immaculate three bedroom townhouse
- remainder of a 10 year NHBC certificate
- kitchen, lounge, cloakroom, bathroom

£285,000

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Countrywide

Wingham



Asking Price £65,000

One bedroom ground floor flat offered as 50% Shared Ownership. Allocated parking space. Village location.

Petham



£129,995

Spacious accommodation, L-shaped lounge/diner and garden, kitchen, two bedrooms (en-suite) and bathroom, c/h.

Aylesham



£156,995

Three bedroom semi detached house. No chain. Conservatory. Off road parking.

Canterbury



£169,995

IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY! Accommodation comprises, lounge, dining room, kitchen, shower room, three bedrooms, garden.

Littlebourne



Guide Price £235,000

A charming Grade II listed cottage with offers three bedroom, bathroom, lounge/diner, kitchen and a garden.

Canterbury



£254,950

Three Bedroom Semi-Detached house. Gas central heating, double glazing, conservatory, utility room, garage.

Canterbury



£275,000

3 bedroom ground floor apartment in St. Dunstons. Gas central heating, double glazing, kitchen, lounge/diner.

Canterbury



£299,995

Larger than average three bedroom home. Gardens, cloakroom, kitchen, utility area, lounge, central heating.

Canterbury



£415,000

Arranged over three floors. Lounge, fitted kitchen, en suite shower room, cloakroom, bathroom, study and three bedrooms.

Whitstable



£695,000

Modern style detached home with double garage and driveway. Kitchen to the west wing and lounge to the east.

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HALES PLACE £159,995

Immaculate two bedroom semi detached modern home. Tasteful decor, double aspect lounge, fitted kitchen, modern bathroom, gas fired central heating, double glazing, garden.



STURRY £229,995

Modernised and well presented four bedroom semi detached, lounge, cloakroom, fitted kitchen, bathroom, gas fired central heating, UPVC double glazing, front and rear gardens, garage.



STURRY £150,000

Purpose built ground floor apartment, lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom, two double bedrooms, gas fired central heating, double glazing, own garden and parking. No chain involved.



STURRY £174,995

Three bedroom semi detached, lounge, open plan kitchen/diner, conservatory, corner suite bathroom, garage/store, porch, south facing rear garden. No chain involved keys available for viewing.



CANTERBURY £184,995

Newly fully furnished semi detached home. New fitted kitchen and bathroom lounge, three bedrooms, new carpets, central heating and re-wired, double glazing, landscaped gardens.



ST DUNSTAN'S £124,995

Spacious one bedroom purpose built City Centre flat, very well presented throughout, gas fired central heating, share of freehold, garage, lounge, kitchen/breakfast room.



SOUTH CANTERBURY £275,000

Immaculate ground floor apartment set within exclusive development. Designed and spec to a high standard with lounge/diner, fitted kitchen with appliances, two bedrooms, en suite, bathroom.



ST DUNSTANS £425,000

Rarely available! Accommodation over four floors with many character features, lounge, drawing room, basement with large fitted kitchen/diner, four bedrooms, bathroom, separate shower room.



SOUTH CANTERBURY £499,995

Oast house conversions. Three storey accommodation with lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, cloakroom, four double bedrooms, two en suites, luxury bathroom. Completion due approximately May 2010.



CHARTHAM £237,000

Well presented four bedroom town house, fitted kitchen/diner, cloakroom, lounge, family bathroom, en suite shower room, gas fired central heating, patio garden, use of residents gym.



CANTERBURY £380,000

Investment opportunity. Currently used as a licensed bar and up until recently benefitting from planning permission (expired May 2009) to one retail unit and seven studio flats.



ST DUNSTANS £205,000

Investment opportunity close to rail station with own parking, two bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, bathroom, separate shower room, fitted kitchen, good order, great location and no chain involved.



WINCHEAP £235,000

Larger than average three bedroom end of terrace house. Excellent condition with lounge, dining room, study, fitted kitchen with appliances, utility room, bathroom, south facing garden.



LITTLEBOURNE £215,000

Large four bedroom cottage with a wealth of character, heavy oak beams, timber panelling, large inglenook fireplace with solid fuel burner, lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, family bathroom, cellar, garage.



BARHAM OIEO £375,000

Exceptional Grade II listed detached period cottage. Lounge, drawing room, study, split level kitchen, cellar, four bedrooms, bathroom, central heating, landscaped cottage garden and parking.



SOUTH CANTERBURY £140,000

Three double bedroom purpose built flat, potential investment opportunity, gas fired central heating, double glazing, lounge, kitchen, fitted bathroom, separate WC and no chain involved.



AYLESHAM £88,500

Great purpose built ground floor apartment, good condition throughout, one double bedroom, lounge/diner open plan kitchen, fitted bathroom, own private garden and no chain involved.



CANTERBURY £275,000

The property requires internal refurbishment, double aspect lounge, study, dining room, kitchen, cloakroom, bathroom, shower room, four bedrooms and a 5th nursery room. Garage and garden.



CHARTHAM £170,000

Outstanding new build first floor apartment. Luxury finish with open plan lounge and fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom and en suite shower room, gas fired central heating, NHBC guarantee.



AYLESHAM £115,500

Immaculate two bedroom home, through lounge/diner, fitted kitchen, modern fitted bathroom, gas fired central heating, UPVC double glazing, two parking spaces, ideal starter home or investment.

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Canterbury £650pcm
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Canterbury £700pcm
2 bedroom semi-detached house
Available 05/03/2010



Canterbury £735pcm
Newly Built 2 bed apartment
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Chartham £780pcm
2 bed penthouse apartment
Available 28/02/2010



Canterbury £795pcm
2 bedroom cottage over 3 floors
Available Now



Boughton £795pcm
Stunning three bed barn
Available Now



Canterbury £850pcm
Delightful 2 bed apartment
Available Now



Upstreet £950pcm
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Available Now



Canterbury £1,200pcm
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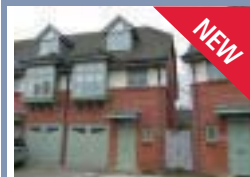
£109,995



- One Bedroom Apartment
- Within City Walls
- Allocated Parking
- Exclusively For The Over 55's

St Dunstons

£339,995



- Excellent Location
- Three Bedroom House
- Private Gated Development
- Garage

Nonington

£135,000



- Three Bedroom Apartment
- Ground Floor
- Nicely Presented
- Off Road Parking

Blean

£319,500



- Detached Three Bed House
- Off Road Parking & Garage
- Conservatory & Utility Room
- Enclosed Rear Garden

CHARTHAM

£159,950



- Two Bedroom Cottage
- High Ceilings / Sash Windows
- Courtyard and Rear Garden
- Garden Room / Office

ROUGH COMMON

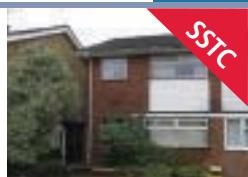
£194,950



- Three Bedroom House
- In Need Of Improvement
- Good Location
- Large Rear Garden

UKC INVESTMENT

£229,995



- Five Bedroom Student Let
- Currently Let For 09/10 Year
- Ideal for UKC
- No Chain

Fordwich

£710,000



- Character property
- In the heart of Fordwich
- Dating back to 1647
- Abundance of character

Castle Row

£184,950



- Within City Walls
- Two Bedrooms
- Maisonette
- Own Entrance

Nr City Centre

£175,000 oied



- Two Bedroom Period Property
- End Of Terrace
- Garage
- Great Location

Canterbury

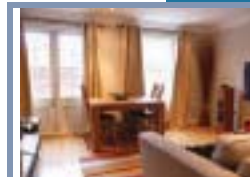
£173,000



- Three Bedrooms
- Semi Detached House
- No Onward Chain
- Off Road Parking

St Dunstons

£285,000



- Three bedroom House
- Excellent Location
- Immaculate Condition
- Luxury Bathroom

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- One bedroom apartment
- Lounge, Lovely Kitchen
- Off street parking, Modern decor through out
- Bright airy apartment

Canterbury

£650pcm



- Two bedrooms
- Stunning interior
- Lots of storage, Office area
- Off street parking

Canterbury

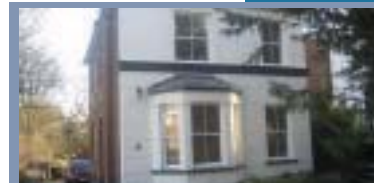
£650pcm



- Two Bedrooms, Ground Floor
- Good size lounge
- Gas fire in lounge
- Kitchen with white goods

Canterbury

£725pcm



- Two Bedrooms
- Ground Floor
- Integrated Kitchen
- Off Street Parking, Unfurnished

Canterbury

£825pcm



- Three bedroom Semi Detached House
- Chislet Gardens Estate
- Off Street Parking
- En Suite shower room

Canterbury

£900pcm



- Three bedroom house, City location
- Large lounge
- Separate dining room
- Fully equipped kitchen

Canterbury

£1,200pcm



- Students
- Four bedroom Semi Detached House
- Furnished
- Spacious Accommodation

Sturry Canterbury

£1,200pcm



- Four good sized bedrooms
- Nicely decorated
- Lovely rear garden, Off street parking
- Available July 2010

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MOTORS NEWS



Black Edition marks 40 years on for 'Z' legend

NISSAN is celebrating 40 years of its legendary 'Z' sports car series with a Black Edition of the current standard bearer, the 370Z.

It is the latest in a line started by the then Datsun 240Z and still uses the classic rear-wheel drive layout preferred for sports cars. The Black Edition (from £33,645) is available to order now, in coupé form only, for April delivery.

It features unique red leather and suede interior with embossed 40th Anniversary logo seats and other premium features.



Sportage ready to step from RAV4's shadow

IF Kia's current Sportage is seen as a cut-price alternative to the increasingly expensive Toyota RAV4, its forthcoming replacement deserves recognition as a smart new model in its own right.

It is a fresh and sporty design blending the key features of a sports utility vehicle – commanding driving position and raised ground clearance.

The Korean marque says the new Sportage will arrive latter this year with a "highly competitive diesel and petrol engine line-up".



Skoda continues to help you save on a new buy

SKODA has extended its 'No-VAT' offer across all Octavia, Fabia and Roomster models, with a potential saving of up to £3,400. Instead of closing at the end of January, this deal continues with orders up to 31 March.

It means the popular Fabia supermini still costs from just £7,870 – saving up to £2,100 and including the eco-friendly Greenline (pictured) – while the award-winning Octavia range that played a major role in the marque's revival is available from just £10,526.



A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER: Mazda has opted for a lighter and lower design rather than premium-priced 'eco' models epitomised by their smart tax saving new-look Mazda3

Mazda's 'lighter and lower' philosophy is looking good

ROAD TEST MAZDA3

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

the nimbleness of the car. So, with a typically crisp Mazda gearshift and direct steering plus a more than adequate 109bhp under the bonnet, this is a company or private buy that is easy to live with in all situations.

It cannot quite match the latest VW Golf for refinement, but is a more cost-effective option, to be judged more against the ubiquitous Ford Focus and latest Vauxhall Astra.

It looks leaner and more muscular than its rather frumpy predecessor and the cabin echoes the impressive Mazda6 in layout, style and quality, though rear legroom is only average for the sector.

Having driven most engines in the line-up now, test driving the well-equipped TS2 version of the 'cooking' diesel confirmed it as the 'go to' model for most buyers. By comparison, the 105bhp 1.6-litre petrol needs a lot of gearshifting to make progress, though still a rewarding drive.

For those who like the look of the '3', but crave more thrills, Mazda has also just launched the MPS hot hatch version (£21,500).

Arriving within months of the mainstream line-up this 257bhp turbocharged 2.3-litre petrol model can hit 62mph in just 6.1 seconds and wears a bodykit to complement its good looks.



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BY STEVE LOADER @
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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

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EVERYONE wants to slash their motoring budget and perhaps downsize too, but there's no need to buy new, even if used prices on top economy cars have boomed as 'gas guzzler' values went bust. Neither must you give up on style; admittedly, our choice here includes a couple of real motoring 'scrooge' options even though full of character, but BMW's Mini D can look after your wallet and street cred for a little more outlay upfront – you can be meaner and greener while making others green with envy

FIAT PANDA



FIAT'S five-door city car shows that a highly space-efficient interior does not have to result in a utilitarian exterior. The compact Italian is also decent to drive, cheap to insure and costs peanuts to run. The original Panda of the 1980s was also cheap and cheerful, but didn't feature the cutting-edge technology and better build of its modern day counterpart. A lively turbodiesel – averaging more than 65mpg – and a rugged little 4x4 option only add to the Panda's attractions.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

PEUGEOT 107



PEUGEOT'S smallest model is the best-seller of a joint venture three and five-door city car project that also spawned the Toyota Aygo and Citroën C1. All come from the same production line in the Czech Republic and, with minor styling tweaks, are modern, stylish, cheap to run and reliable. Launch prices were not as cheap as expected, but robust new car sales and second-hand values indicate that the public is willing to pay to save money and the planet.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

MINI D



USED values for the frugal yet lively diesel version of BMW's reborn Mini are steep, but the rewards are worth it; the car drives well, oozes class, will save money while you run it and be worth more when you sell. The downside is a relatively cramped interior in comparison with its exterior – the antithesis of its all-British forebear – and rarity when buying. A late 'Mark II' petrol version with BMW's eco-friendly 'Efficient Dynamics' package is a possible alternative though.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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FORD

FIESTA, 2.0st, 2007, red with red black leather, 22000 miles, £7750, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 'New Shape' 1.4 TDCi Zetec, 2009, hot magenta, 3000 miles, £12735, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 'New Shape' 1.25 Zetec, 2009, moon dust silver, 2000 miles, £10995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 'New Shape' 1.4TDCi Zetec, 2009, vision, 6000 miles, £11995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Ghia Automatic, 2006, moon dust silver, 10000 miles, £6995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec Blue, 2008, moon dust silver, 19000 miles, £7995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Style, 2005, jeans, 57239 miles, £4995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 'New Shape' 1.25 Zetec, 2009, avalon, 0 miles, £11795, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Zetec, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, sea grey, 17301 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS, TDCi Titanium, 2008, black, 12114 miles, £13000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Style 5 Dr Duratec 125 PS Stage IV (-), 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, black, 7 miles, £14000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS, ZETEC CLIMATE, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player split folding rear seats traction control trip computer curtain airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points, silver, 30112 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Zetec Climate, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats remote central locking isofix child seat points quickclear windscreen, black, 44000 miles, £8700, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.8 ZETEC, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player tonneau cover trip computer twin airbags remote central locking, over 4000 cars in group stock, 43222 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

MONDEO, LX TDCi, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering split folding rear seats fitted glass curtain airbags remote central locking, silver, 55477 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

MONDEO, Zetec 1.8 6 Speed Box 125 P, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tinted glass traction control trip computer, sea grey metallic, 12828 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

MONDEO, Econetic 1.8 125ps Parking, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering traction control trip computer, hynoptic silver metallic, 7979 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

S-TYPE, SE, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission bluetooth car kit central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint leather interior power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls, midnight black / barley leather, 22000 miles, £19000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

S-TYPE, V6 SE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, blue, 58114 miles, £16500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

S-TYPE, V6 SE Auto, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, gold, 15251 miles, £16000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, Sport Premium 2009, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, grey, 5801 miles, £19000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, Sovereign 2009, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, black, 7448 miles, £20000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, Sovereign 2009, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering satellite navigation, red, 3939 miles, £20000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, Sport (Euro 4), 2001, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control electric windows heated seats immobiliser power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid satellite navigation, quartz, 27528 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

KIA

CEED, 2.0 CRDi Sport, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser, silver, 55 miles, £16700, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CEED, 2.0, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16600, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CEED, 2.0, 2008, black, 55 miles, £16500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CEED, 2.0 CRDi Sport, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser, silver, 55 miles, £16700, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CEED, 2.0, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16600, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CEED, 2.0, 2008, black, 55 miles, £16500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CEED, 2.0, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, silver, 55 miles, £16750, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

PICANTO, GS, 2006, silver, 25511 miles, £5000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

PICANTO, GS, 2006, silver, 25511 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

PICANTO, GS, 2006, silver, 25511 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

RIO, 5, 1c58rgv, insurance group 4 abs air conditioning alloy wheels body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd steering wheel rake adjustment, sapphire blue, 8000 miles, £7995, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

RIO, 5, 1c58n7ze, insurance group 4 abs air conditioning body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd steering wheel rake adjustment, sapphire blue, 8000 miles, £7995, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

RIO, 5, 1y08lyo, insurance group 5 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd rear electric windows remote central locking side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment, red, 1342 miles, £7995, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

RIO, 5, 1c58rgv, insurance group 4 abs air conditioning alloy wheels body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd steering wheel rake adjustment, clear silver, 5178 miles, £8695, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

RIO, 5, 1c58n7ze, insurance group 4 abs air conditioning body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd steering wheel rake adjustment, sapphire blue, 8000 miles, £7995, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

RIO, CRDi Ice, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, silver, 18169 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

RIO, 1.4 GS AUTO, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted cd player central locking metallic paint power steering trip computer remote central locking, silver, 30007 miles, £4500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

RIO, Soul(not Rio), 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering traction control remote central locking, black, 3452 miles, £10000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

LAMBORGHINI

DIABLO, 1998, purple metallic with cream leather, 57000 miles, £59950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

LAND ROVER

DEFENDER, 130 TD5 Box Body, bt51dtv, remote alarm, power steering, tow pack, 4x4, 130 td5 single cab with box rear body. price is £8, 995 + £1, 574.13 vat = £10, 569.13 total. road tax (lgv) is £185 per year, white, 120000 miles, £8995, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

DEFENDER, 90 SV TDI Soft Top, 161cjl, power steering, tow pack, side steps, cloth upholstery, alloy wheels, 4x4, rare genuine 90 sv special edition. recent new hood. road tax (plg) is £190 per year. metallic blue, 129000 miles, £9995, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

DEFENDER, 110 TD5 County Station Wagon, so54kdf, remote alarm, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, heated seats, power steering, quick-clear screen, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, side steps, tow pack, sunroof, electric front windows, cd player, alloy wheels, 4x4, 9 seater. road tax (diesel car) is £215 per year, metallic green, 72000 miles, £15495, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

FREELANDER, 2003, 4x4 abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors multiple airbags power steering satellite navigation traction control trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, red metallic, 38412 miles, £7500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FREELANDER, 2001, 4x4 abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels electric windows immobiliser metallic paint roof rack split folding rear seats traction control twin airbags remote central locking roof rack, silver, 62401 miles, £3000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FREELANDER, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, blue, 28660 miles, £7489, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FREELANDER, 2001, 4x4 abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels electric windows immobiliser metallic paint roof rack split folding rear seats traction control twin airbags remote central locking roof rack, silver, 62401 miles, £3000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

LOTUS

ELISE, 1.8 111R, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels central locking electric windows metallic paint power steering remote central locking, grey over 4000 cars in group stock, 8967 miles, £20000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ELISE, 1.8 S, 2007, abs brakes alloy wheels electric windows metallic paint sports seats remote central locking, grey, 18247 miles, £19000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ELISE, S, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player, black, 11000 miles, £26000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ELISE, S, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player, silver, 11000 miles, £25500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

ELISE, 1.8 111R, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels central locking electric windows metallic paint power steering remote central locking, grey over 4000 cars in group stock, 8967 miles, £20000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

ELISE, 1.8 S, 2007, abs brakes alloy wheels electric windows metallic paint sports seats remote central locking, grey, 18247 miles, £19000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

ELISE, S, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player, black, 11000 miles, £26000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MASERATI

QUATTROPORTE, 2005, abs brakes air con alarm fitted alloys automatic transmission bluetooth car kit cd player climate control electric windows full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags power steering satellite navigation traction control, silver blue, 37800 miles, £24900, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

QUATTROPORTE, 2005, abs brakes air cond alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission bluetooth car kit cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags power steering satellite navigation traction control, silver blue, 37800 miles, £24900, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

QUATTROPORTE, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission bluetooth car kit cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows full service history heated seats immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors leather interior multiple airbags power steering satellite navigation traction control, silver blue, 37800 miles, £24900, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

MAZDA

2, TS, 2008, air conditioning electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags trip computer curtain airbags remote central locking, black, 10229 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

2, 1.4, 2008, black, 55 miles, £13100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

2, 1.4, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £13200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

2, TS2, 2007, metallic sunlight silver, 25367 miles, £14621, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

5, 2.0, 2008, black, 55 miles, £20900, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

5, 2.0, 2008, red, 55 miles, £20800, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

5, 2.0, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £17900, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

5, 2.0, 2008, black, 55 miles, £17800, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

5, 2.0, 2008, green, 55 miles, £17900, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

5, 2.0, 2008, black, 55 miles, £17800, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

5, TS2, 2007, abs brakes air con alloys electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags single cd player curtain airbags remote central locking roof bars remote audio controls, grey, 33517 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

6, Sport (136), 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, red, 45986 miles, £6000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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Further details and an application form are available from Marion Wigington at m.wigington@spireacademy.com or ring 01227 710392, for an information pack.

Closing date: 12.00 noon, Friday 26th February 2010

Spire Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

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Administrator: We are looking for a methodical, organised and experienced person who can demonstrate excellent computer skills and the ability to undertake all aspects of office administration, to support the efficient running and development of this busy organisation.

Both of these positions are mainly office based, however, you may be required to travel outside the office to attend meetings, etc. A full driving licence and your own transport are essential.

**For an application pack please write to
Mel Perkins, Operations Manager, 10 Victoria Road,
Deal, Kent CT14 7AP or email: mel@carers-doverdistrict.org**

Closing date: Monday 1st March 2010.

Registered Charity No. 1097782

Walmer Science College is a vibrant community school for students 11-19 catering for 800 students of all abilities. We also have a Dyslexia Unit, which is able to offer up to four places in each year group for students in the local area. The Dyslexia Unit is housed in purpose built accommodation which was completed in 2006. Walmer Science College is a good school with outstanding features (Ofsted 2007).

Head of Dyslexia Department Mainscale plus TLR 2B - £2,478 AND SEN Responsibility Payment - £1,956 Required for 1st September 2010

The successful applicant will have experience of supporting students with dyslexia within mainstream lessons and teaching students with dyslexia of secondary school age literacy skills. Having undergone training in dyslexia, you will hold an appropriate qualification, be computer literate and have experience of line management whilst providing CPD sessions for staff.

You will have excellent communication, negotiation, organisational and interpersonal skills with a vision for the future development of the unit; incorporating its role as the Lead School for Dyslexia in the area, which will involve outreach provision.

It would be desirable if you have undergone training in Speech and Language Disorders or are willing to undertake such training.

Application forms and further details are available from the school.

Closing date: 9:30am on Friday, 12th February 2010.

Walmer Science College is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and the successful applicant will be required to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure via the CRB. Only applications submitted via the official application form will be considered.

T: 01304 375212 F: 01304 380766
E: admin@walmersciencecollege.co.uk
www.walmersciencecollege.co.uk



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Please apply in writing for an application pack, via email to: vsilk@ursuline.kent.sch.uk

Visits to the school are encouraged

Closing date: Friday 19th February 2010

Interviews to be held Thursday 25th February 2010

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For further information Tel: 01795 841220
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Experienced in all aspects of purchase ledger including invoice processing, reconciling statements, weekly payments, with experience on computerised accounting system.

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Please send CV's to Alistair Mackay-Miller, Piper Double Glazing Limited, 140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6PP or by e-mail to ron@piperwindows.co.uk.

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Ynez Coton, Associate Director,
KOS Media Ltd.,
Apple Barn, Hythe Road,
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Or e-mail ynyez.coton@kosmedia.co.uk



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Award Winning Company

Marketing Assistant

Visit Kent is the official tourism delivery body for Kent. We are a public/private sector partnership supporting Kent's £2.5 bn visitor economy.

We are expanding our team thanks to support from our stakeholders and successful applications for grant aid from the EU 2 Seas Interreg IV A Programme. We are seeking energetic and experienced individuals who first and foremost love Kent and are passionate about encouraging visitors to Kent.

Marketing Assistant

This role will involve all aspects of campaign delivery including PR, online, briefing agencies, printers, and fulfilment house, the production of a range of marketing material and the analysis of marketing results. The successful candidate will have a marketing background with experience of working in the tourism industry and will be a confident, outgoing person with excellent communication skills and ideally proficiency in French.

Salary £17,000 - £20,000

Visit www.visitkent.co.uk for more details of the position and application details.

For further information, please contact Sharon Dawson on 01227 862789 or sharon.dawson@visitkent.co.uk

Closing date for applications: 15th February 2010.

Interviews will be held on 25th February in Canterbury.

This advertisement first appeared on 8th February 2010.



Visit Kent

Visit Kent is the official tourism delivery body for Kent. We are a public/private sector partnership supporting Kent's £2.5 bn visitor economy.

We are expanding our team thanks to support from our stakeholders and successful applications for grant aid from the EU 2 Seas Interreg IV A Programme. We are seeking energetic and experienced individuals who first and foremost love Kent and are passionate about encouraging visitors to Kent.




Finance Coordinator
(French speaker preferred), Canterbury based but able to travel to Maidstone approximately twice a week and to France, The Netherlands and Belgium periodically for meetings. The focus of the role will be the preparation of monthly management accounts, budgeting and forecasting, cash flow, organising and supporting external audit of EU 2 Seas Interreg IVa projects, monitoring of project budgets and budget holders. Must have excellent systems skills (Excel & Sage) and be capable of robust and detailed analysis as well as the ability to liaise at senior levels. Experience in a financial environment and with European projects preferred.

Relevant tertiary qualifications required although **candidates actively studying will be considered.**

Salary £25,000 - £30,000

Visit www.visitkent.co.uk for more details of the positions and application details.

For further information, please contact Sharon Dawson on 01227 862789 or sharon.dawson@visitkent.co.uk

Closing date for applications: 24th February 2010.

This advertisement first appeared on 10th February 2010.



Visit Kent Limited is a public/private sector partnership supported by Kent County Council, Medway Council, the District and Borough Councils, Tourism South East and the leading private sector tourism businesses in Kent.

WILMOTH'S

THE CITROËN DEALER

Due to the continued expansion of the Wilmoths Citroën Group, we have the rare opportunity for a **Trainee Sales Executive**.

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An aptitude towards wanting to succeed is what we are seeking as full training will be provided to the right individual through in-house one to one, manufacturer courses and independent motor trade associates. We are adamant that the successful candidate will be someone who wants a career, not a job.

If you feel that you have the will and the drive to succeed where others would not, then please send your CV with a covering letter to:

Personnel Department,
Wilmoths Citroën Maidstone, Sutton Road,
Parkwood, Maidstone, Kent ME15 8RD
or e-mail: sales@wilmothsmaidstone.citroen.co.uk



Marlowe Academy
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www.marloweacademy.co.uk

Graduate Teacher Training Programme

Starting 1st July 2010 in both Mathematics and English Salary: £15,817

We offer an exciting opportunity to work in Kent's first Academy where we continue to challenge traditional approaches and to drive up standards. Our students are offered innovative and challenging learning experiences. As part of your training package you would be supported by experienced and enthusiastic staff.

Candidates must have a degree in a related subject, have left university for a least a year before commencing training, and have some experience of working with children.

Interested?

Then download further information and an application form from our website or contact the school.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Enquiries or visits to the Academy are welcome.

Please contact Jennifer Spooner, HR Manager, on direct telephone number 01843 598550 or email jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk

The Marlowe Academy is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and the successful applicants will have to undertake Enhanced Disclosure via the CRB.

The closing date for both posts is: Friday 19th February 2010

Experienced Car Sales Executives

This is an ideal opportunity for experienced Car Sales Executives to take their career onwards. The ideal candidates would already be working or have worked in a motor dealership environment, preferably Fiat or Alfa Romeo dealerships. You also need to be organised and be an articulate team player capable of converting enquiries into sales and delivering exceptional levels of customer service. In return, we offer an excellent salary and commission package.

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Alfa Romeo or Fiat experience preferred. Knowledge of Kerridge systems would be an advantage. Hours are 45 per week, good salary plus bonus and other benefits.

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Fully skilled technicians with main dealer experience required. Alfa Romeo or Fiat experience preferred but not essential as training will be provided.

Administrator

Good IT, organisational, administration and communication skills required together with the ability to work under pressure and meet tight deadlines.

For all of the above positions please respond in writing to: **WHITEHOUSE**
TREVOR HOWARD, DEALER PRINCIPAL
315-321 BROADWAY, BEXLEYHEATH
KENT DA6 8DT 020 8304 8198 or email:
trevor.howard@whitehousegroup.co.uk

Closing date: 12th Feb 2010



Academy Lane, Folkestone
Kent CT19 5FP
www.folkestoneacademy.com

Stirling Way, Ramsgate
Kent CT12 6NB
www.marloweacademy.co.uk

Bredlands Lane, Sturry,
Canterbury Kent CT2 0HD
www.spireacademy.com

Group Personnel Manager

Working across three academies in
Folkestone, Ramsgate and Canterbury

Salary range ~ Academies Band 11: £35,901-£41,316 p.a

We offer an exciting opportunity to work across three academies where we challenge traditional approaches to drive up standards. Our students and staff are offered innovative and challenging learning and work experiences.

Candidates must have CIPD qualifications and experience of working within Human Resources in a complex organisation. An education background would be an advantage.

Interested?

then download further information and an application form from our websites

We look forward to hearing from you.

The closing date posts is: Friday 19th February 2010

Enquiries or visits are welcome.

Please contact Jennifer Spooner, HR Manager The Marlowe Academy,
on direct telephone number 01843 598550 or email
jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk

The Academies are committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and the successful applicants will have to undertake Enhanced Disclosure via the CRB.



The Royal School of Military Engineering, Chatham

Exciting opportunities for 2010

Programme Area Leader

Salary: £30,312 - £35,000 (2 posts)

Post 1: Carpentry and Joinery

Post 2: Electrical and Mechanical Design Draughtsman

You will be fully qualified and experienced with a good working knowledge of your trade. You may have previous supervisory experience or be seeking to progress in your career. You will be organised, efficient with good communication skills and the ability to get the best out of your team. Previous training experience would be an advantage but is not essential as training will be given. If this sounds like the sort of role that you would enjoy and be good at, then we would like to talk to you.

Commercial Manager - Salary £50,000

This is a new senior management role working directly for the Managing Director. You will be a Strategic Planner/Thinker with a track record of achievement in a contract environment. Sound financial experience (budgeting/forecasting) is essential as you will need to monitor contract costs, develop benchmarking criteria and ensure contract performance metrics are achieved. You will have excellent communication skills (both interpersonal and written) and be able to demonstrate success in developing new business opportunities within a long term contract environment.

If the challenge of these roles appeals to you: call Ken Pullan on 07725128661 for an informal discussion and/or forward a copy of your CV in the first instance to ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk
Full details of these and other vacancies are available on www.midkent.ac.uk
(follow Careers then RSME vacancies)

Closing date: 26th February 2010

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

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COUNCIL
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Consultant for Minority Ethnic Achievement (Traveller Education) Ref: CA0973C

Salary: Soulbury points 10-12 £42,227 – £44,454 per annum
Hours: 37 per week Location: Children and Adults – learning and caring directorate, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham

We are looking for a consultant with substantial and proven successful teaching and management experience in school for 19 April 2010 or as soon as possible thereafter, to be responsible for Minority Ethnic Achievement, and in particular for Traveller Education. The postholder will:

- provide training and school based consultancy to Medway primary and secondary schools to raise standards of teaching and learning and attainment for vulnerable pupils with a focus on minority ethnic pupils and in particular Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) pupils.
- assist in monitoring, evaluating and reporting on the progress and impact of provisions for vulnerable pupils in particular, GRT pupils in Medway schools.
- contribute to the raising of standards and improving inclusion of vulnerable pupils in Medway schools through training, challenge and support, and advice as required.

The postholder will be part of the Minority Ethnic Achievement Team and work alongside colleagues in the School Improvement Team. We welcome applications from the Traveller Community.

Any offer of appointment will be subject to a satisfactory enhanced criminal records bureau disclosure.

For an informal discussion phone Amy Thompson on 01634 338543

Closing date for application: Monday, 1 March.

Short listing date: Friday, 5 March. Interviews: Friday, 12 March.

For an application pack or to apply visit www.medway.gov.uk or phone 01634 333333 Mon to Fri 8am – 8pm, Sat 9am – 1pm or 01634 332843 24-hour answerphone. Alternatively email jobs@medway.gov.uk quoting the reference.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP
ACT 2004 APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL
MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **Kent County Cricket Club, Old Dover Road, Canterbury**

Applicant: **Jon Fordham**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the grant of an approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
First Floor, Invicta House,
Maidstone, ME14 1XX



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0871 220 9205

(Live assistance, 2pm-5.30pm, Mon to Fri | Email: louise@g8wave.co.uk | Calls cost 10p/min; contact your service provider for details)



WOMEN seeking men

MATCH OF THE DAY! Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494

MAKE IT LAST Slim female, 25, 5'10", long brown hair and blue eyes, caring and social, likes clubs, cinema, seeking a kind male, 30-45 for a relationship. Box 461558

LOOKING 4 A GUY WHO'S EASY ON THE EYE! 25yr old female, 5ft8, medium-curved build, N/S, enjoys reading, painting, cinema, walks, WLTW tall, attractive male, 23-32, for friendship. maybe LTR. Box 442644

NOT YOUR BROWN-EYED GIRL, BUT... Blue-eyed brunette, 27, 5ft1, loves films, walking, darts, pool, singing, me time! Looking for honest guy with GSOH, to get to know. Box 880105

SOUND GOOD? Social lady, 29, likes walks, swimming, vgsch, like to meet a man, 30-55 for lots of fun. Brighton. Box 463984

FANCY A CUDDLE? Loving single man, 29, shoulder length black hair, brown eyes, 5ft3, slim and sexy, part-time carer, looking for reliable, loving male. Canterbury. Box 464326

COULD I BE THE ONE? Single mum, 33, divorced, looking to meet a male who enjoys walks, going out, time in and out and much more. Maidstone. Box 464835

HORSES FOR COURSES... Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013

A FAIRYTALE ENDING! Princess Fiona, 34, looking to meet her Shrek. 5ft8, short brown/blonde hair, blue eyes, large build, seeks romantic caring guy for friendship, maybe more! Box 877957

HAPPY DAYS! Attractive, fun-loving female, 35, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTW intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308374

FEAST YOUR EYES ON ME... Hello I'm Andrea, 35, petite 5ft3, shoulder length curly hair, I enjoy eating out, cinema and I'm looking for friendship and possible long term relationship. Box 463036

SEALED WITH A KISS Petite lady, 36, long hair, blue eyes, single mum, enjoys holidays, wining and dining, laughing, seeks loyal, loving man for friendship and more. Box 860164

GROW OLD WITH ME Single mum, 37yrs old, slim build, honest, kind and caring, I'm looking for LTR, love and romance with nice guy in Maidstone area. Box 860164

LOVE TO LOVE YOU Lovely female, 36, 5ft4, medium/large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102

HISTORIC MEETING? Mum of three, 36, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male 36-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 446093

SEIZE THE DAY Loving female, 36, 5ft4, brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666

CUTE AS CAN BE Cute single mum of four, 38, Kent-based, into most things, looking for friendship, possibly romance. Box 897983

AN AFRICAN DIAMOND

38yr old African girl, likes cooking, going out, watching films and dancing, seeking a loving and caring boy for companionship and more. Box 446676

DON'T LET ME DOWN Pretty, black female, 38, 5ft4, like football, socialising and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male, 38-42, for a LTR. Box 446684

EASY TO LOVE Lovely African female, 39, 5ft4, likes football, socialising, cinema, and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male for a LTR. Ashford. Box 460988

WANNA RIDE WITH YOU Curvaceous lady, 40, 5ft8, long curly hair, into motorbikes! Single mum, seeks fun-loving like fun for rides into the sunset. Eastbourne. Box 458787

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FROM ME TO YOU Lonely and bored single professional Asian lady, 40, seeks genuine single solvent professional white male, 40-50, for companionship and more. Tunbridge Wells. Box 464925

SHOW ME HEAVEN Black lady, 39yr old, enjoys swimming, films and bird watching, fairly new to the area. With a male for friendship and maybe romance. Box 441608

A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE Lovely, glossy brunette, 39yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out. WLTW a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551

CALL ME Single, Asian lady, 41, living in Tunbridge Wells, I'm easygoing and fun loving and WLTW single male to spend time with. Box 465481

TLC ON OFFER Bubbly, happy, outgoing 41yr old female, enjoy life to the full, like writing, walking, watching DVDs, WLTW like-minded, happy-go-lucky, clean male for friendship and more. Box 459271

TAKE A LITTLE TIME Social lady, 41, 5'3", gsch, likes family life, going out, cinema, walks, staying in, seeking a fun male for company. Sheerness. Box 461145

FOR A RELATIONSHIP? Shy but confident once-known female, a mum, 40, likes socialising, tennis, walks, swimming; seeks gent with similar interests to find hopeful love with. Box 452106

LOVE IS ALL AROUND Happy-go-lucky, bubbly Blonde, 42, blue eyes, hard-working, love outings, looking for a nice, genuine guy for relationship. Bromley. Box 454517

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL

Good-looking brunette from Kent, 43, 5ft10, likes bowling, eating in/out etc, looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with gsch for friendship/relationship. Box 450348

ANOTHER CHAPTER Hard working PA, 43, single mum, grey-green-blue eyes, loves socialising and enjoying life, seeks loyal, honest male to find love with. Sittingbourne. Box 461037

DOES THIS SOUND LIKE YOU? Single mum, 42, from Ashford, 5ft9, dark hair/eyes, likes wine bars, pubs, days out and keeping fit, looking for a caring and fun-loving fit, 5ft9+. Box 461129

STAY TRUE Attractive, curvy, single mum, size 18, 44, kind, genuine, 5'5", loyal, loving, seeking a man with similar qualities to share my life with. St Leonards-on-Sea. Box 459128

HOW YOU DOING? Attractive, curvy single mum, 44, kind, genuine, loyal and loving, seeking a man with similar qualities to share my life with. St Leonards-on-Sea. Box 459128

SWEET AS HONEY Petite, slim, honey-blond lady, 54" age 44, enjoys the seaside and horse-racing, looking for a dark-haired, genuine, honest and professional man, 25-50 in Brighton. Box 458465

AIMING HIGH 6ft blonde aerobics instructor, female, 43, seeking decent, tall, fit male for companionship, hopefully leading to a relationship in my spare time (mainly afternoons). Box 446017

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS Laid-back single mum, very bubbly, outgoing and intelligent, 43, enjoys social life, drinks, meals, cinema; looking to start afresh with someone new, easygoing and life-loving. Box 464102

GENUINE REPLIES ONLY Bubbly female, 44, brunette, n/s, medium/large build, enjoys singing and theatre. Would love to meet a decent fun-loving guy, similar age, pref non-smoker for LTR. Box 445955

ENJOY LIFE TO THE FULL Young-looking 46yr old female, 5ft4, slim, blonde, non-smoker, affectionate, loyal, caring, seeking a male, 40-45, up to 5ft7, to share life with. Ashford/Maidstone area please. Box 461938

YOUNG AT HEART Young 46, attractive, fun-loving female, looking for someone fit, handsome, intelligent, full of fun, sexy, Worldly Man to share everything that life has to offer. Box 884113

TAKE IT EASY Maidstone female, 47, looking for someone just for initial company and friendship. Many interests including gardening, cooking and shopping. Box 464973

A REAL DIAMOND African lady, 47, honest, loving and caring, enjoy most things in life, looking for a male, 50+, for a LTR. Canterbury. Box 460999

NORMAL GAL Female, 48, divorced, happy, looking for the one, friendship, laughter, looking for smart, genuine, kind tall honest man, age under 50 is all I ask. Maidstone. Box 866380

DO YOU HAVE THE BRAINS & THE LOOKS? Professional, attractive female, 54, enjoys the countryside, gardening, keeping fit, reading and live music, looking to meet an attractive and intelligent man for a relationship. Box 448863

COMPANIONSHIP, LAUGHTER, HOPEFULLY MORE Curvy & cuddly, outgoing, friendly, honest female, 53, 5ft7, larger build, fair hair, likes socialising, country walks, theatre, cinema, music, swimming, WLTW single loving male. Box 443642

LOVE ME DO Loving and caring lady, 63, 5ft3, brown hair/eyes, likes most things in life, looking for a caring and considerate male for friendship, hopefully a LTR. Margate. Box 460082

SOMEbody TO LAUGH WITH... Loving lady looking for companionship, 63, 5ft3, medium build, brown hair/eyes, likes dancing, walks and animals; seeks similar male with great GSOH for lasting happiness. Box 443682

FIGHTING FIT? Very young 64 year old lady, loves socialising, walks, music, dogs; seeks intelligent, unpunctious ex-forces/fireman male? For committed relationship. Les please leave contact number. Box 462717

Women seeking women TRUE ROMANCE Fun loving lady, honest, sincere and trust-worthy, 47yrs old and looking for fun, maybe romance with an honest, sincere woman. I like nights in/out etc. Whitstable. Box 464494

LET'S FIND OUT! Hi, I'm a fun-loving, kind, passionate lady, 44, 5ft5, with a wicked sense of humour, looking for friendship and what ever evolves from there. Kent. Box 877446

GIRL TO GIRL Looking for a female to have some fun with, I'm a 47yr old woman, brown hair/blue eyes, medium build, GSOH and I'm friendly. Margate area. Box 859781

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?

Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366

HELP ME OPEN UP Easygoing lady, 46, dark brown hair/blue eyes, medium build, likes life, socialising, the seaside, walks, drinks, WLTW male to share a bottle of wine with. Box 444585

ETERNALLY YOURS Easygoing woman, likes most things in life; country walks, films, cinema, cooking, I'm 46, 5ft2, medium build. WLTW genuine, happy guy, easygoing and fun. Box 448305

ANY TAKERS? Divorced single mum, 49, 5ft4, animal lover, happy go lucky, likes quiet drinks and cinema, looking for a man for friendship, maybe a LTR. Ashford. Box 464557

MAKE IT ENJOYABLE Pretty, young-looking, slender woman, 49, dark-haired seeks reliable gentleman, 25-49 for a loving relationship. Rochester. Box 460686

HERE AND NOW Outgoing lady, 50, enjoys walks along the beach, nights out and in with a quiet bottle of wine, seeks man to love forever. Box 449524

THE RIGHT FIT Big lady (5ft), looking for decent, genuine man. I'm attractive, and very loving so go on, give me a try! I like cooking and family life. Box 862888

JUST IMAGINE Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTW genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562

CARING & PROFESSIONAL Female 49, 5ft4, long hair, slim build, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Hastings. Box 471100

LOVELY BUBBLY Short 51yr old professional lady, likes history, films and reading, seeking a genuine gent, 45-58, with gsch to enjoy evenings out, stimulating conversations and fun. Box 452311

WOULD LIKE TO BE HAPPY Looking for someone who enjoys the simple things in life; wind and rain in my face, 53, red hair, warm holidays love mowing the lawn. Box 860558

IT COULD BE US Happy-go-lucky lady, 53, 5ft3, slim, blonde-brown hair, blue eyes looking for a tall, honest guy, for love and laughter and happy times. South Kent. Box 464601

YOU DON'T KNOW UNTIL YOU CALL... Young-looking, hard-working 53yr old living in East Sussex. I am a happy, caring person with a good sense of humour. Non-smoker. Heathfield. Box 882410

COMPANIONSHIP, LAUGHTER, HOPEFULLY MORE Curvy & cuddly, outgoing, friendly, honest female, 53, 5ft7, larger build, fair hair, likes socialising, country walks, theatre, cinema, music, swimming, WLTW single loving male. Box 443642

LOVE ME DO Loving and caring lady, 63, 5ft3, brown hair/eyes, likes most things in life, looking for a caring and considerate male for friendship, hopefully a LTR. Margate. Box 460082

SOMEbody TO LAUGH WITH... Loving lady looking for companionship, 63, 5ft3, medium build, brown hair/eyes, likes dancing, walks and animals; seeks similar male with great GSOH for lasting happiness. Box 443682

FIGHTING FIT? Very young 64 year old lady, loves socialising, walks, music, dogs; seeks intelligent, unpunctious ex-forces/fireman male? For committed relationship. Les please leave contact number. Box 462717

Women seeking women TRUE ROMANCE Fun loving lady, honest, sincere and trust-worthy, 47yrs old and looking for fun, maybe romance with an honest, sincere woman. I like nights in/out etc. Whitstable. Box 464494

LET'S FIND OUT! Hi, I'm a fun-loving, kind, passionate lady, 44, 5ft5, with a wicked sense of humour, looking for friendship and what ever evolves from there. Kent. Box 877446

GIRL TO GIRL Looking for a female to have some fun with, I'm a 47yr old woman, brown hair/blue eyes, medium build, GSOH and I'm friendly. Margate area. Box 859781

ALWAYS LOOKING ON THE BRIGHT SIDE

Intelligent woman of 56, gsch. Loves London, plays/shows, cinema, walking, the sea, travel, seeking a Kentish male companion of similar age to share these. Maidstone. Box 460816

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS! Smart petite lady, 55, 5ft4, tall, blonde hair, green eyes, likes restaurants, theatre, cinema, travel abroad; seeking happy guy with similar interests. Box 448795

SMART MOVE Spontaneous, friendly, lively female, 55, likes cinema, walking, cooking, socialising, seeks similar person for friendship possible to hopefully more. Box 430854

DOG LOVER? Lovely lady of 58, 5ft7, medium build, blonde hair, a hairdresser, likes art galleries, theatre, cinema and painting, seeks male to enjoy this and more. Box 457241

MAKE A NEW FRIEND Fun-loving lady, 58, 5ft4, dark hair, single mum! Likes countryside walks, reading, cooking and cosy nights in, seeks similar male. Folkestone. Box 460420

PISCES OR CAPRICORN? Star-struck lady, 59, 5ft3, medium build, blonde, blue eyes, likes swimming, holidays, the sea; WLTW tall man with good heart for love. Box 448240

MUSIC TO MY EARS Hi my name's Christine, 58, 5'9", slim build, wear glasses, likes live music, theatre, playing darts, looking for a slim build male, for friendship, possible more. Box 419914

WALKS ALONG THE COAST Honest & sincere female, 58, tall, GSOH, loves country pubs, coasts, cinema, seeking a man who's a match for me with GSOH for relationship. Box 441622

BE YOURSELF Outgoing lady, active, 60, tolerant, open-minded, loves life animals, and genuine people, seeks a sincere man for romance. Margate. Box 865760

LOTS OF HUGS Positive woman, 60, independent but sociable, I'm 5ft4, red hair/green eyes, slim build. Hythe. I enjoy art and walks, seeking similar, intelligent man, lively, reliable. Box 464002

BRIGHTENING UP Cuddly lady, 61, 5ft5, blonde, likes swimming, country pubs, cinema and much more, WLTW tallish single man to hopefully brighten each others lives. Box 858113

SHY AT FIRST Caring loving and genuine, hard working and shy at times, I'm 40, slim build, 5ft10, blue eyes, short hair. Seeking genuine lady in Kent. Box 465529

FISHING & CAMPING! Fun-loving male, 40, not of many words, likes sports, music, reading and films, seeks company and companion. Snodland. Box 465333

MAKE YOUR MARK Hi I'm Mark, 40, 5ft8, brown hair and eyes, fit, not ugly, mature, honest, WLTW someone trustworthy and caring. Box 448372

RECIPE FOR ROMANCE Brighton based man, 41, 5ft10, slim build, shaved head, looking for fun loving lady to share good times. I enjoy cooking, reading and walking. Box 465307

LOOKING FOR A BIRDIE! Hi there, I'm Chris, 38, in good shape, attractive, own place, hard working and honest, loves days out, golf, summer! Looking for loving companion. Box 465311

PUT THAT SPARK BACK IN MY LIFE Virgo male, 40, 5ft7, stocky build, kind, loving, fine guy, enjoys the cinema, meals out, walks on beaches, WLTW like-minded person to be my girl. Box 446211

HE'S MIGHTY FINE! Virgo male, 40, 5ft7, stocky build, kind, loving, fine guy, enjoys the cinema, meals out, walks on beaches, WLTW like-minded person to be my girl. Box 446212

BE THERE NOW Old romantic, loyal, honest, 43, 5ft7, brown hair, blue eyes, likes most things, WLTW female to settle down with and find love. Box 443410

A SUMMER WALK Loving, caring and reliable, single male, 45, 5ft6, dark hair/blue eyes, I'm seeking a relationship with loving lady 34-56. I like holidays, theatre, music etc. Ashford. Box 465408



MEN seeking women

OUT AND ABOUT Bubbly male, 33, looking for a fun lady to go out with, like clubs, meals out, the usual things. Gillingham. Box 465643

SIT IN Genuine male, I enjoy football, golf, cosy nights, I'm 32, 6ft1, medium build, short dark hair, glasses, WLTW woman, 28-34 with a great personality. Box 884207

LOVE ME TENDER Fun-loving honest guy, 34, 5ft11, brown hair, seeking honest, caring female for friendship, maybe leading to honest, tender relationship. Eastbourne. Box 448200

IS ANYBODY OUT THERE? Fit, active man, I'm single, good looking, 40yrs old. I like cinema, walks, and eating in and out. Ashford area. Box 465457

BOTTLE OF WINE Hi there, I'm an easygoing male, 35, 5ft9, medium build, brown hair, I'm based in Brighton and enjoy seeing friends, drinks, cinema, walks. Box 450165

RECIPE FOR ROMANCE Seeking lovely black lady to share interests with. I'm male, 36, and enjoy movies, cooking and dining out. Maidstone area. Box 462890

LET ME LOVE YOU Happy-go-lucky male, 36, 6'2", GSOH, large build, blue eyes/brown hair, likes socialising, relaxing weekends, loves children; seeks caring, honest female for TLC and love. Box 384903

LOVE TO LAUGH Looking for a down to earth green eyed lady. Must have a sense of humour and laugh at life's little surprises! I'm 39 with GSOH...Hastings. Box 862208

THE GOOD LIFE Young looking male, 39, quiet guy, looking for a LTR, want to relax and enjoy life together, with the right woman. Box 858113

SHY AT FIRST Caring loving and genuine, hard working and shy at times, I'm 40, slim build, 5ft10, blue eyes, short hair. Seeking genuine lady in Kent. Box 465529

FISHING & CAMPING! Fun-loving male, 40, not of many words, likes sports, music, reading and films, seeks company and companion. Snodland. Box 465333

MAKE YOUR MARK Hi I'm Mark, 40, 5ft8, brown hair and eyes, fit, not ugly, mature, honest, WLTW someone trustworthy and caring. Box 448372

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A SUMMER WALK Loving, caring and reliable, single male, 45, 5ft6, dark hair/blue eyes, I'm seeking a relationship with loving lady 34-56. I like holidays, theatre, music etc. Ashford. Box 465408

ROMANTIC TYPE

Caring, romantic and loyal gent, 45yrs young, 5ft11, slim build, blue eyes/brown hair, I like walks, music, animals and pubs. Hastings/Bexhill/Eastbourne areas. Box 465613

ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIP Romantic male, dark hair, blue eyes, 5'6", caring and loving, likes cooking holidays, the countryside, bowling, cinema, seeking a similar lady 34-56. Ashford. Box 465485

GAME ON Male, 44, 6ft tall, fairly sporty, romantic nature, likes the countryside, coast, going out; seeks outgoing confident female for friendship/possible relationship. Medway/Kent. Box 870699



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BRUISING ENCOUNTER: Canterbury (in black) lost four players to injury

Mistakes and injuries cost Canterbury dear

Richmond 27 Canterbury 18

A COMBINATION of injury problems and self-inflicted errors saw Canterbury throw away a winning position at Richmond on Saturday.

Danny Vaughan's side lost four players during the game but were leading going into the last five minutes before a late collapse. To add insult to injury the visitors conceded a late penalty which denied them a losing bonus point.

Richmond got off to a fast start and were quickly on the board with a converted try. Canterbury had barely threatened their opponents' 22 but scored when Pat Sykes charged

RUGBY

down a kick, gathering the loose ball to dive over.

Phil Gibson missed the conversion but Canterbury were soon in front. A yellow card saw Richmond temporarily reduced to 14 men and the visitors took advantage, with a try for Ben Thomas.

Gibson, who kicked one out of five attempts all afternoon, missed with the conversion, allowing the hosts to take a 14-10 half-time lead with their second try.

Canterbury lost starting flankers Chris

Hinkins and Georgios Bertolis in the first-half, but they again benefitted from a Richmond yellow card to retake the lead. Peter Kelly's try edged them in front and a Gibson penalty made it 18-14.

The visitors' injury woes heightened with the loss of replacements Matt Sheen and Tom McArthur, forcing another reshuffle in the pack. Richmond, aided by some unforced errors, made the most of the uncertainty, scoring another try and two penalties to pinch the victory.

Rosslyn Park, second in National 2 South, visit Merton Lane on Saturday.

FOOTBALL

City exit cup after penalty shootout

CANTERBURY City's run in the Bill Manklow Inter Regional Cup came to an end on Saturday as they lost their quarter-final with Lewisham Borough on penalties.

City's chances of progressing were hit when striker Wayne Fittall hobbled off in the first-half.

Lewisham took the lead just before half-time with a low shot from Dean Mitchell. City recovered when Royston Gough was brought down, leaving Ian Hossick to crack in the penalty, but they missed several other chances in normal time, which finished 1-1.

Extra-time led to penalties. City were encouraged when Lewisham's first two penalties went over the bar but the home side's goalkeeper saved three.

Manager Dave Fairclough, the County League's manager of the month for April, said: "We were not at full strength but fought well. Our priority now is to move up in the league to make up for a few lapses in the first part of the season".

City are at home to Tonbridge Invicta at Hersden on Saturday (2pm).

How I fell under the spell of Merlyn the bowling machine

A chance to go up against Kent's newest recruit had KOS Media sports editor GLENN PEARSON in a spin

CRICKET

MANY English batsmen far better than me have had sleepless nights at the prospect of facing Australian spin-king Shane Warne in his pomp.

His presence in the Australian side alone forced England to recruit the help of a bowling machine aptly named Merlyn to help them conquer their demons ahead of the 2005 Ashes.

Merlyn is an adaptation of a bowling machine that replicates Warne's leg-spin deliveries and is capable of mimicking his variations. Having seen the bowling machine work with some degree of success – although Warne went on to claim a staggering 40 wickets in that series – the England and Wales Cricket Board decided to stump up the money to send all 18 English counties a Merlyn machine ahead of the 2010 season.

Kent's arrived at the St Lawrence Ground in Canterbury just before Christmas and the players had their first hit against the 'wizard' shortly after.

Nervous

Having been offered the chance to take on the county's newest signing (not to be confused with the club's new overseas leg-spinner Malinga Bandara) it was with a sense of trepidation that I donned the pads – not only because I was likely to be bamboozled by the array of spinning deliveries coming from Merlyn, but more disconcerting for yours truly was that some of the Kent players decided to hang around to watch, or indeed get their own back.

Now, I'm not the worst batsmen in the world, having been known to turn out for Rodmersham in the Kent League once or twice, but having the likes of Ashes winner Geraint Jones and Joe Denly – England's one-day opener – watching to see me fall flat on my face left me more nervous than the prospect of facing a fizzing Shane Warne leg-break.

After having been given instructions on how to prepare for a Merlyn delivery, which basically consists of waiting for a green light and then the pink ball shoots out two seconds later, I made the lonely walk to the other end of the wicket and took guard.

I'm not usually one for planning an innings, principally having never occupied

the crease for long enough, but there was one thing frantically going around my head – don't get bowled.

That changed somewhat after receiving my first ten fiercely spun off-breaks from Merlyn to, just hit the ball. Each delivery dipped and turned enough to beat each one of my defensive prods – something that eagle-eyed head coach Paul Farbrace was quick to spot. I'm pretty sure he gave me sound technical advice when shouting "you can use that lump of wood in your hand" but I could be mistaken, it's hard to hear underneath a batting helmet.

It was time for a new tactic to try and save face and that was to go all out attack. Unfortunately that's not my strong point as my batting style is more Geoff Boycott than Kevin Pietersen. Having managed to surprisingly connect with a couple, including one pleasurable straight drive that almost decapitated our photographer Ady Kerry, I went for another dance down the track only to see the ball spin sharply past my bat and take the middle stump out. Cue cheers from the Kent players and staff.

After safely negotiating the remaining off-breaks, it was time to face some variations used by the off-spinner which included an arm-ball and a variety of deliveries that spun at different angles. Just like facing the top bowlers in world cricket, there's little or no hope of picking the subtle changes of pace or revolutions on the ball, especially for an amateur like myself, but for county cricketers it's fantastic practice during the off-season.

Merlyn is able to vary the amount of spin and pace put on each delivery ensuring no one ball faced is ever the same. The machine, which costs £11,000 and has been developed by its maker Bola and the ECB, it's designed to give batsman the chance to face spin bowling indoors, something a regular bowling machine is unable to provide and is made hard for county spinners on traditionally hard gym floors.

Kent Simon Willis said the equipment has gone down well and will prove helpful during the months spent indoors.

"This machine has obviously had a lot of time spent on it to try and mirror the angles and degree of spin that top players produce on the ball at point of release," he said. And of my chances of getting a late call into the Kent squad this summer?

"It depends how many injuries we get along the way," Willis said diplomatically.

I think Joe Denly and Rob Key's position as openers are quite safe for now.



Picture: ADY KERRY

MAN AGAINST MACHINE: KOS Media sports editor Glenn Pearson takes on Merlyn

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Time for Oystermen to do their talking on the pitch

FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Leatherhead 7

Elston 12, Francis 35, 49, pen 52 & 59, Coke 43, Simmons 44

Whitstable Town 1

Cornhill 81

WHITSTABLE Town manager Mark Munday is not planning on much of a team talk ahead of this evening's crunch relegation six-pointer at Ashford Town, following his side's thrashing at Leatherhead on Saturday.

The Oystermen suffered their heaviest defeat of the season at the weekend, conceding six goals in a 25-minute spell either side of half-time.

It was the last thing struggling Town needed heading into this evening's game against rock bottom Ashford at Homelands, but Munday is expecting a different scoreline.

He said: "There won't be any need for a team talk, the reaction should come from within. We've done well against Ashford in the past and it's not as if they are on a good run, it's a long time since they've won. We need to get at them, keep it tight and hopefully get the rub of the green."

The bare facts of the game on Saturday



Picture: PER LALENG

MY MISTAKE: Whitstable manager Mark Munday admitted he should not have picked himself on Saturday

give a very one-sided impression, but the Oystermen had cause for complaint early on as they had two goals harshly disallowed.

Munday got both of them, the first chalked off for off-side, the second for a foul on his marker. Tellingly on both occasions there was no protest from the Leatherhead players or supporters.

In between the disallowed goals Leatherhead opened the scoring, when an unmarked Marc Elston slammed home past Kevin Fewell.

Town still carried plenty of attacking threat and had another two efforts cleared off the line. It was a different story at the other end, where everything Leatherhead touched turned to goals. They doubled their lead ten minutes before the break and they netted two

Whitstable starting XI



more on the stroke of half-time to go in 4-0 up.

The misery continued as the Tanners added three more goals before the hour mark to go 7-0 up. Whitstable did at least grab a consolation, through Gareth Cornhill's free-kick eight minutes from time.

With most of the goals coming from central midfield, Munday conceded he should not have picked himself, but insisted in hindsight it was the only thing he would do differently.

He said: "It was possibly a wrong decision playing myself, I wasn't the best and I'll hold my hand up. It was possible a pitch for a younger man, who might have been able to get closer."

"I don't think they will have another game like it, it was just one of those days where everything they did went in. We were 100 per cent better than we were against Chatham the week before and we almost got a point from that game."

Munday will not have long to wait until seeing his side's reaction. Log on to www.yourcanterbury.co.uk tomorrow for the details from tonight's game with Ashford.

FOOTBALL



Picture: NICK DINCAN

OPENER: Herne Bay skipper Luke Harvey was on target

Bay boss relieved as team overcome the 'ten-man syndrome'

Herne Bay 2 Beckenham Town 1

A RED card for one of your opponents is usually seen as a positive, but Herne Bay manager Simon Halsey was willing the referee to show leniency to Beckenham's Dan Lawson on Saturday.

The hosts had cruised into a 2-0 lead inside 20 minutes and Beckenham had shown little attacking threat before Lawson picked up his second booking for a late tackle on Dan Lawrence. Bay never regained their intensity and Beckenham responded and pulled a goal back in the second-half, before being reduced to nine men late on.

Halsey said: "When their guy went in I thought 'I hope he doesn't get sent off'. It was harsh on Beckenham but then the normal ten-man syndrome kicked in. I always feel when you have an extra man mentally, people stop doing their jobs."

"I believe if they had kept 11 players on we would've been okay. They got a lift out of it and it pushed them on."

Bay have made a habit of fast starts in recent weeks and Saturday was no exception. On 15 minutes Nick Blue, Beckenham's goalkeeper, made a mess of clearing the ball and it fell straight to Luke Harvey, who passed the ball into the gaping net from 35 yards.

Stuart King laid on the second four minutes later, pulling the ball back for Michael Jenner to blast home.

As with the game against Sporting Bengal a week earlier, Bay could not hit the same heights in the second-half. Harvey and Darren Marsden had goals disallowed for off-side, but James Holder's 66th minute strike for the visitors was the only addition to the score line.

Bay face a huge test this evening when they host fellow title hopefuls Hythe Town. Log on to www.yourcanterbury.co.uk tomorrow for the details.

LEAGUE TABLES

RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Folkestone Invicta	24	17	5	2	+20	56
2 Croydon Athletic	24	14	6	4	+28	48
3 Fleet Town	25	15	3	7	+21	48
4 Worthing	25	14	3	8	+14	45
5 Godalming Town	22	13	3	8	+15	42
6 Walton & Hersham	25	12	5	8	+6	41
7 Dulwich Hamlet	26	9	10	7	+5	37
8 Burgess Hill Town	24	10	6	8	+4	36
9 Chatham Town	27	11	3	13	-10	36
10 Sittingbourne	22	10	5	7	+14	35
11 Horsham YMCA	27	8	11	8	+5	35
12 Ramsgate	24	9	7	8	0	34
13 Corinthian-Casuals	25	10	3	12	-7	33
14 Merstham	25	9	6	10	-8	33
15 Leatherhead	22	9	3	10	+8	30
16 Whyteleafe	24	9	3	12	+2	30
17 Metropolitan Police	23	7	7	9	+4	28
18 Walton Casuals	25	6	6	13	-11	24
19 Chipstead	26	6	6	14	-14	24
20 Whitstable Town	24	6	2	16	-33	20
21 Eastbourne Town	26	3	9	14	-29	18
22 Ashford Town	23	2	8	13	-34	14

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Faversham Town	17	13	2	2	+30	41
2 Herne Bay	15	11	1	3	+16	34
3 Erith & Belvedere	17	9	2	6	+3	29
4 Hythe Town	14	8	4	2	+25	28
5 Erith Town	14	7	3	4	+8	24
6 Beckenham Town	16	7	3	6	+8	24
7 Sevenoaks Town	14	7	3	4	+6	24
8 Greenwich Borough	16	6	5	5	0	23
9 Deal Town	14	6	4	4	-2	22
10 Tunbridge Wells	18	5	7	6	-5	22
11 Sporting Bengal United	19	5	4	10	-22	19
12 Norton Sports	14	5	1	8	-5	16
13 Holmesdale	16	4	2	10	-7	14
14 Corinthian	16	3	3	10	-16	12
15 Fisher	18	3	3	12	-21	12
16 Lordswood	14	1	5	8	-18	8

KENT COUNTY LEAGUE DIVISION ONE EAST

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Stansfeld O&B Club	19	13	3	3	+21	42
2 Hollands & Blair	17	11	4	2	+19	37
3 Phoenix Sports	15	10	3	2	+17	33
4 Sutton Athletic	17	10	3	4	+15	33
5 Rusthall	18	10	2	6	+11	32
6 Canterbury City	16	9	1	6	+11	28
7 Bly Spartans	15	8	1	6	+4	25
8 Fleet Leisure	15	7	4	4	+3	25
9 Snodland	18	6	4	8	-6	22
10 Lewisham Borough	16	6	1	11	-11	19
11 Bearsted	15	4	5	6	-4	17
12 Tonbridge Invicta	17	4	4	9	-10	16
13 Coney Hall	18	5	0	13	-21	15
14 Cray Valley (PM)	15	4	2	9	+1	14
15 Orpington	19	3	4	12	-21	13
16 Milton & Fulston United	16	3	1	12	-29	10

FIXTURES (Saturday): RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH: Whitstable Town v Worthing. KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION: Lordswood v Herne Bay. KENT COUNTY LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION: Canterbury City v Tonbridge Invicta

Success for city sides on return from winter break

HOCKEY

CANTERBURY'S top hockey sides returned from the winter break in style as they began the second-half of the outdoor season with convincing victories.

Both teams enjoyed a successful indoor season, with the ladies reaching the national semi-finals and the men winning promotion.

They carried the momentum into last weekend, where the ladies boosted their hopes of a top-four finish by beating Olton & West Warwicks 4-0 at Polo Farm on Saturday, while the men won 5-0 away at Kent rivals Bromley & Beckenham on Sunday.

With just one league win from their first eight games, the ladies' season was in danger of becoming a disaster.

Back-to-back wins before the break improved the situation and they soon found their stride against Olton, who started the day two places above Canterbury in the Premier Division.

Jen Wilson started the scoring from open play in the ninth minute and a trademark Mel Clewlow penalty corner made it 2-0 at the break.

Natasha Brennan and Kathleen Taylor stretched the lead in the second-half without reply from the visitors to round off a victory which lifted Ian Jennings' side up to fifth. Brooklands Poynton visit Polo Farm on Saturday.

Kwan Browne's Canterbury men stayed three points clear at the top of the Conference



Picture: ADY KERRY

GOAL: Mel Clewlow (in white) scored for Canterbury

East with an even more emphatic victory. The player-coach scored the first two himself and Michael Farrer made it 3-0 before the break.

Evan Farrell and Ben Hare were on target in the second-half. Canterbury visit second-placed Old Loughtonians on Sunday.

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